red eye

Friday
NOVEMBER 27, 2009
redeyechicago.com
A Chicago Tribune publication
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REDEYE ILLUSTRATION

Zac attack: Ladies love his hot buns

page 36

White House crashers fool security 3

Personal shoppers aren't exactly priceless 7

metromix
New spots hit or miss? Your call 21

BOX OFFICE BLIZZARD

Action! Adventure! Avatars! The holiday movie blitz is here

26-27

2do

» Caroling at "Cloud Gate"

To shop
Get 40 percent off your entire purchase Friday at Le Dress (1741 W Division St.) from 10 a.m. to noon. Then from noon to 4 p.m., get a 30 percent discount, and from 4 to 7 p.m., get a 20 percent discount.

To wreath
The Art Institute of Chicago (111 S. Michigan Ave.) wreaths the lions on its front steps at 10 a.m. Friday. A day-long celebration will include performances from Cirque du Soleil, Hubbard Street Dance and Muntu Dance Theater. For a schedule, visit: **bit.ly/artlions**.

To carol
Enjoy Caroling at "Cloud Gate" from 6 to 6:50 p.m. every Friday until Dec. 18 at Millennium Park.

AYE, AYE CAPTION

txtable

MONDAY'S WINNING CAPTION
"It took us a little longer than expected, but we were able to determine that ... You are not the father!

Text us a funny caption for the photo above and we'll print the best in RedEye. Text the word **"caption"** followed by your brief caption and your name to **87708**. Good luck!

41 30
TODAY'S FORECAST
A good day for standing in long lines

Sat. 53 40 Sunny skies ahead

Sun. 45 34 Little chance of snow

Mon. 40 28 Back to chills

Tues. 46 37 Oddly warm...

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Just dropping in

White House investigating how couple crashed Obama's state dinner

Associated Press

WASHINGTON Michaele and Tareq Salahi like a good party, an attorney who knows them said Thursday, and maybe that's why the couple from Virginia's horse country didn't look out of place at the White House state dinner for the Indian prime minister.

They were all smiles as they rubbed shoulders with Vice President Joe Biden, White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel, Washington Mayor Adrian Fenty and "CBS Evening News" anchor Katie Couric.

No one suspected the Salahis were a couple of brazen party crashers—and wannabe reality TV stars.

The Secret Service is looking into its security procedures after determining that the Virginia couple managed to slip into Tuesday night's event even though they were not on the guest list, agency spokesman Ed Donovan said.

Paul Morrison, a Virginia attorney who has represented the couple on other matters, told The Associated Press: "I know them. I'm unaware of any reason they need representation right now."

Morrison said he hasn't spoken to the Salahis since the incident but said, "I can't imagine" why they would be in legal trouble.

"They just went to a party. They didn't do anything wrong. I know they enjoy a good party. They're just good people," he said.

President Obama was never in any danger because the Salahis went through the same security screening for weapons as the 300-plus people actually invited to the dinner honoring Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Donovan said.

Donovan confirmed the identities of the couple. The Washington Post, which first reported on their evening out, said the Salahis were well-known in the Virginia horse-country set and were being considered for the Bravo reality TV show "Real Housewives of D.C."

In an interview with CBS' "Early Show" in September, Michaele Salahi said, "President Obama has made it very accessible for anyone to visit the White House, so that's like a big thing right now." The CBS interview was part of a segment on potential candidates for "Real Housewives of D.C." but never was aired.

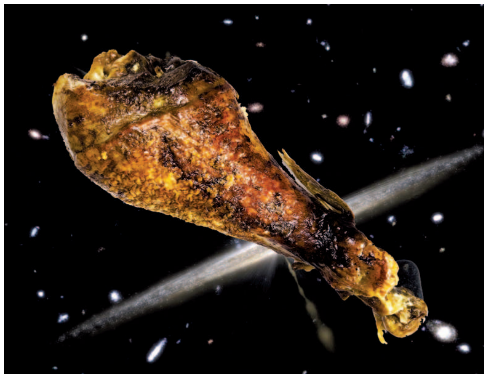
The Secret Service learned about the security breach Wednesday after a media inquiry prompted by the Salahis' online boasts about having attended the private event, Donovan said.

FALLOUT

Security was reviewing what happened. An initial finding indicated a checkpoint did not follow proper procedures to ensure the two were on the guest list, a Secret Service spokesman said.

State dinner crashers

One of the many photos from the state dinner posted on Michaele Salahi's Facebook page shows she and her husband, Tareq, with a smiling Vice President Joe Biden (at right). In other photos, they appear with Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel (below), and Michaele poses with PepsiCo CEO Indra Nooyi (bottom). AP



REDEYE ILLUSTRATION

Thanksgiving shocker—turkey in space!

Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. Space shuttle Atlantis' astronauts thought they were going to give thanks with pantry leftovers Thursday as their mission drew to a close, but found turkey dinners awaiting them.

The meal switch was revealed Thursday morning when a TV interviewer brought up the absence of turkey dinners aboard Atlantis. "That's not going to be on your menu today, is it?" the interviewer asked.

"Shockingly, yes, I think it will be," commander Charles Hobaugh said as some of his crew members grabbed the still unopened pouches of turkey and trimmings, and let them float around.

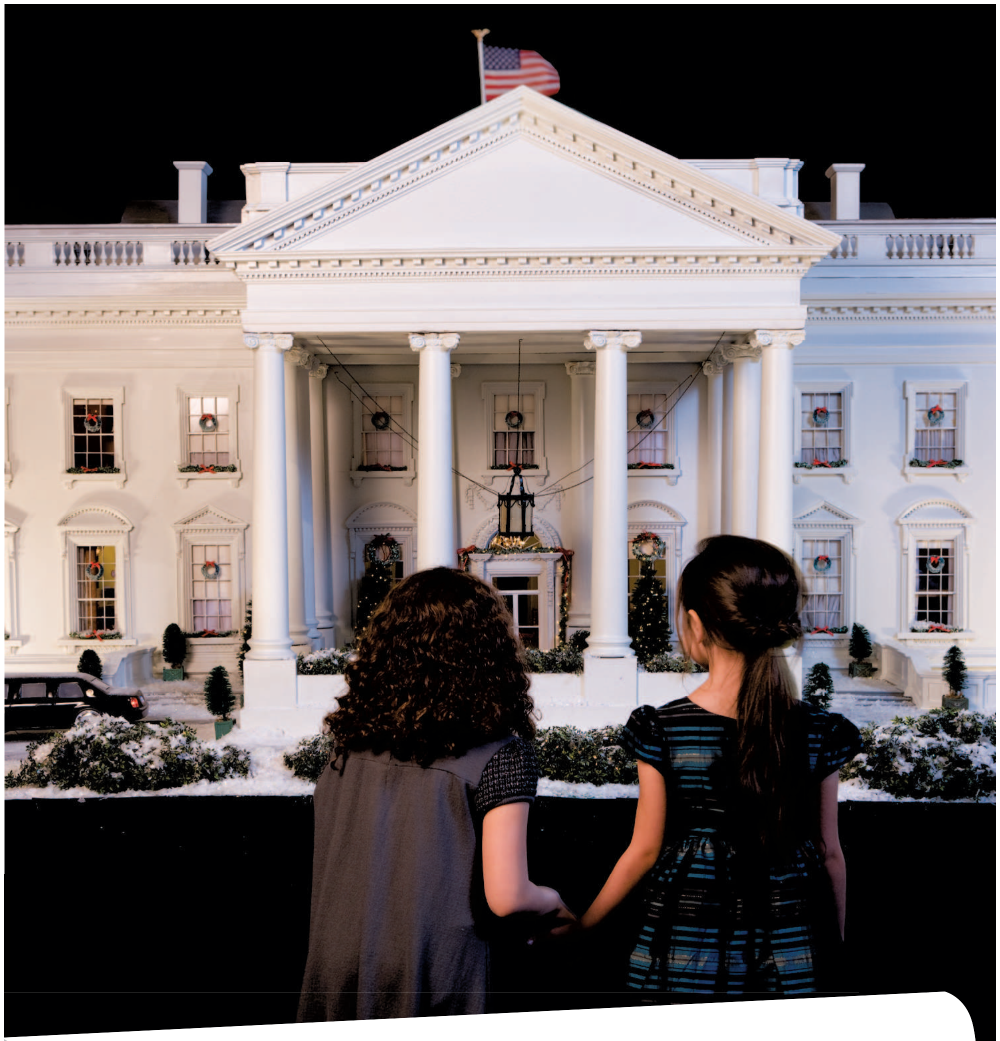
Hobaugh, a no-nonsense Marine, had made it clear before the 11-day flight that he did not care what he ate on the holiday, be it beef brisket or tofu. He made no special meal requests.

But somehow, smoked and irradiated turkey ended up on Atlantis, along with pouches of candied yams, freeze-dried cornbread stuffing and green beans—just add water and bon appetit.

A NASA spokesman, John Ira Petty, said "the only conceivable thing" that could have happened is the crew of the International Space Station sneaked the meals into the shuttle before it departed Wednesday.

"Thanksgiving to me has not always been about the food you eat, but the company you keep, and I'm keeping some outstanding company here," Hobaugh said Thursday.

Hobaugh said he can't wait to get home and share a late Thanksgiving meal with his family. "But in the meantime, I've got a great group of friends and I'm really thankful for that," he said.



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The bird is the word

Readers sound off on meatless Thanksgiving

RedEye special contributor Scott Bolohan's column Wednesday certainly ruffled some feathers. Bolahan, who's a vegetarian, said he'd take a pass on Thanksgiving because it's awkward not partaking in the turkey. Readers weighed in from both sides of the dietary divide.

No need to defend it

Thank you, [Scott Bolohan] for your column ("Thanksgiving? I'll take a pass," Wednesday). I am a vegetarian and I, therefore, completely understand your discomfort during the Thanksgiving holiday each year. I would suggest to you that there is another way of looking at this situation. Rather than feeling like you need to "defend" your choice of a vegetarian lifestyle, you could consider that your choice is more beneficial to other living things (in many ways) and, therefore, non-vegetarians should be explaining to you their reasons for continuing to eat meat.

—MARSHALL SORKIN, CHICAGO

Yes, Scott, there is a vegetarian

Big ups to Scott Bolohan for his column. As a vegetarian for the last four years, I've endured the "Well, what DO you want?" question from my family. Maybe, just maybe, wider knowledge of the fact that vegetarians can, in fact, eat food on Thanksgiving will reduce these questions in the future. *—KATJA LUNDE, HUMBOLDT PARK*

Quit your whining

Hey, Scott, eat some meat already. It's good for you. It's evolution. It's the food chain. Please go have a taste of what a medium rare, center-cut filet tastes like at Morton's and never write another column about your wimpiness again. *—MATT MCGOWAN, LAKEVIEW*

FROM REDEYECHICAGO.COM

When my sister and I stopped eating meat, my dad was worried about Thanksgiving, but he found ways to modify his delicious stuffing by using vegetarian sausage instead of pork sausage. So yeah, we all cook and eat together and it's not a big deal in my family!

— JENNKLOC

My family is huge on the traditional meals, but Thanksgiving isn't really about turkey, is it? It's about gathering with the ones you love and being grateful. If someone is trying to make you feel weird for not gorging on flesh, you can always tell them that you didn't come for the meat, but to be with them.

—MAYA HENDERSON

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chicago

Bullwinkle floats down State Street during the McDonald's Thanksgiving Day Parade on Thursday. ANTONIO PEREZ/TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Magnificent miles

Chicago's Thanksgiving parade rings in 76 years

Chicago Tribune

The chilly rain wasn't enough to stop Jeff Lin and his 2-year-old daughter from seeing the McDonald's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

As the huge helium balloons glided by, punctuated with the sounds of nearby marching bands, Anya Lin shouted her approval.

"Yay," she said, clapping her hands.

They were among an estimated 350,000 people who bundled up to watch the parade travel about a half-mile down State Street, officials with the City of Chicago's Office of Special Events said. In its 76th year, the parade featured about 100 floats, bands and performance groups from all over the country. The Amtrak train float played "The Cupid Shuffle," prompting people to snap their fingers, sing along and boogie. The crowd waved at the performers on floats and in cars and cheered for the high school marching bands.

Rocket J. Squirrel, a huge helium character, leaned down to allow some in the crowd to give him a high-five.

Lin held his daughter on his shoulders and stood under an awning to keep dry.

"I'm thankful for family," he said, standing with his wife, Ming Lin by his side. "Our daughter just loves this parade."

The family planned a quiet dinner later in their Oak Park home, Lin said.

Farther south on State Street, Julian Aguirre, 6, stood up on a barricade to see the parade over the crowd. His favorite part was the horses and Ronald McDonald, he said. Julian is a seasoned parade veteran, having attended since he was 1.

"You always see something you didn't notice the year before," said his mother, Maria Valdez, 31. "There are different bands, groups from different parts of the city."

Families watch the parade glide by.

Santa Claus makes an appearance.

Getting paid to shop on Black Friday

Several entrepreneurs are willing to do the work for you—for a price, of course

Chicago Tribune

Christina LaMacchia loves all things Christmas and saw an opportunity to cash in on shoppers' angst over the crush of Black Friday.

The Glendale Heights woman is billing herself as a personal holiday shopper willing to pick the best bargains and package gifts for $15 an hour.

"They call me a mini-Martha Stewart," said LaMacchia, 24.

She joins a growing number of entrepreneurs who advertise that they'll hunt bargains and brave crowds on the first official day of the holiday shopping season. A family in Barrington pledged to hunt down a wish list of Christmas items. In northwest Indiana, a woman offered personal references and a full menu of holiday services "so you do not have to leave the house!!" And a graduate student in Lombard charged $12 an hour and the price of hot chocolate to stand overnight in line awaiting first crack at pre-dawn sales.

It is a novel approach in an economic downturn that has dampened household budgets and upped the pressure on retailers to lure customers with discounts. Up to 134 million people plan to hit the stores this weekend, according to the National Retail Federation, up 4.7 percent from a year ago.

The day after Thanksgiving, Black Friday gets its name from the fact that retailers historically have said it's the day they begin turning a profit for the year.

LaMacchia advertised her services last week on Craigslist. For years she braved the seasonal crush at the shopping mall for a network of friends, neighbors and referrals and this year decided to publicize what she did for 15 clients last year.

"I was just trying to think of creative ways to help with holiday cash," LaMacchia said. "People say, 'Why should I pay an hourly rate for this?' But you probably have to pay someone to baby-sit your kids while you go out and shop. I'm the replacement for that."

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2001 FORD WINDSTAR Full Power! Stk. #LP1747A $4,995* or $34/mo**
1998 CHEVY CAMERO Z28 V8! Stk. #A1034A $4,995* or $34/mo**
2004 CHRYSLER SEBRING Full Power! Stk. #A1018A $5,995* or $79/mo**
2000 HONDA ACCORD EX V6, Coupe! Stk. #A0981A $5,995* or $79/mo**
2003 FORD F-150 CREWCAB LOADED! Stk. #LP1783B $8,995* or $139/mo**
2006 CHEVY COBALT SS Moonrf, Lthr, 4-Dr! Stk. #A0174A $8,995* or $139/mo**
2004 CHEVY IMPALA LS LOADED! Stk. #A0125A $8,995* or $139/mo**
2002 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LOADED Stk. #LP1764A $8,995* or $139/mo**
2005 MITSUBISHI LANCER Auto, Air 29K Miles! Stk. #LP2031A $8,995* or $139/mo**
2007 FORD FOCUS Moonroof! Stk. #LP1862 $9,995* or $158/mo**
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Prosecutors to squeeze Peterson book author

Chicago Tribune

Will County prosecutors are taking the first steps toward forcing the Canadian author of a book about Drew Peterson to turn over audio recordings of his interviews with the Bolingbrook police sergeant charged with killing his third wife.

Last November, Illinois state police and prosecutors wanted Derek Armstrong, author of "Drew Peterson Exposed," to testify before a grand jury about his "relationship" with Peterson and turn over recordings of their conversation, according to court documents.

Armstrong, a freelance journalist living in Ontario, declined, citing press freedoms. In a phone interview Wednesday, he said all the tape recordings were turned over to CNN and Fox, which broadcast some and streamed others online.

"Every single thing I learned about the case has been made public," said Armstrong, who said he is no longer following the Peterson case. He couldn't recall how many recordings there are, but the book jacket says there were "hundreds of hours of tell-all interviews."

A spokesman for the Will County state's attorney declined to comment.

On Tuesday, Robert Lorz, a former judge who is now chief of the state's attorney's criminal division, filed a motion asking a judge to find that Armstrong lacks a "reporter's privilege" to withhold the recordings and argued that prosecutors have no other way to obtain the information they contain.

Springfield media attorney Don Craven, who is not involved in the case, said he believes the privilege would typically extend to authors as well. He said the court may also have some difficulty getting jurisdiction becauseof the fact that Armstrong lives in Canada.

A preliminary bench trial for Peterson, who is being held in lieu of $20 million bail for the drowning death of Kathleen Savio, is scheduled for January.

Peterson

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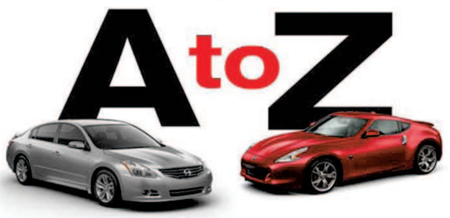

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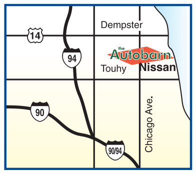

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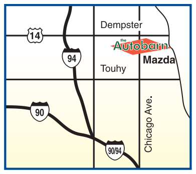

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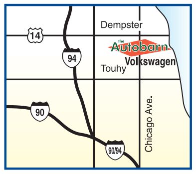

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'Revenge' case

A West Side man has been charged with killing another man who had broken up a fight with a woman. Terrell Cobbs, 24, of the 3400 block of West Douglas Blvd. was charged Thursday with first degree murder.

On Tuesday, Cobbs got into an argument with a woman and began kicking her, police said. Gregory Hampton intervened.

Cobbs shot him out of "revenge," police said.

Felon charged

A convicted felon has been charged with gunning down a Dyett High School student on his way to catch a bus to class last month, police say.

Timothy Lightfoot, 18, of the 7200 block of South Marshfield, was charged with one count of first-degree murder after he was picked up in Urbana earlier this week. Lightfoot is accused of firing several shots at 17-year-old Martel Barrett on Oct. 26.

White Castle shooting

A man was shot and seriously wounded at a White Castle on the South Side this morning after he struggled with a gunman who had followed him into the restroom, police say.

The man was shot in the lower abdomen and was taken in serious condition to Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn, officials said.

Vaccines available at airports

Chicago Tribune

As they battle the holiday crowds this weekend, frazzled travelers at Chicago airports also will have the option of stopping to get protection against the swine flu virus.

A clinic at O'Hare run by the University of Illinois at Chicago began offering H1N1 flu vaccines in nasal mist form this week. City officials say the clinic also hopes to receive arm-shot vaccines this week and plans to open kiosks to administer the mist form of the vaccine at both O'Hare and Midway this weekend.

"We feel that it is a good amenity and service for travelers passing through the airport as well as the employees working at the airport," said Gregg Cunningham, a spokesman for the Department of Aviation.

City officials said the UIC clinic at O'Hare now has several hundred doses of the nasal mist, which it is offering in Terminal 2 to qualified individuals. They would not specify how many more doses of the hard-to-find vaccine the clinic had ordered or how many were expected this week.

Registered nurse Bettie Bolton draws a swine flu shot. AP

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Mumbai memorial

1 People light memorial candles Thursday at the India Gate in New Delhi on the first anniversary of the Mumbai terror attack. 163 people were killed in that event. AP PHOTO

Man dies in cave

2 A man stuck upside-down in a cave for more than a day died early Thursday, authorities said. John Jones, 26, of Utah, died after he became stuck 700 feet into the cave known as Nutty Putty.

Obama's T-Day message

On his first Thanksgiving in the White House, **3** President Obama telephoned 10 U.S. servicemen and women stationed in war zones to thank them for their service. Next Tuesday he is expected to announce a new battle plan for Afghanistan.

Suspect turns self in

A scion of a powerful clan suspected in the **4** massacre of 57 people in an election caravan in the southern Philippines turned himself in Thursday amid mounting pressure on the government to crack down on lawlessness and warlords.

Polanski's house arrest

After two months in a Swiss jail, Roman **5** Polanski prepared Thursday for the splendid captivity of his $1.6 million chalet in Gstaad, one of world's most luxurious winter resorts. He is on house arrest there.

Shaq pays funeral cost

6 Shaquille O'Neal has paid for the funeral of a 5-year-old North Carolina girl whose kidnapping and slaying received national news coverage. The Fayetteville Observer in North Carolina reported Thursday that the Cleveland Cavaliers player was touched by the case of Shaniya Davis.

THE DIGIT

$10

Zhu Zhu Pets, which retail for about $10, are this year's bona fide must-have toy, following in the footsteps of past crazes for Tickle Me Elmo and Cabbage Patch Kids. On resale Web sites like eBay and Craigslist, they fetch $40 or more. Vital accessories such as the hamster car and funhouse are sold separately.

Report: Catholic church kept child abuse a secret for years

7 **DUBLIN** Bishops of the Roman Catholic Church in Dublin covered up decades of child abuse by priests to protect the church's reputation, an expert commission reported Thursday after a three-year investigation.

Abuse victims welcomed the report on the Dublin Archdiocese's mishandling of abuse complaints against its parish priests from 1975 to 2004. It followed a parallel report published in May into five decades of rape, beatings and other cruelty committed by Catholic orders of nuns and brothers nationwide in church-run children's workhouses and orphanages from the 1930s to mid-1990s.

THE INVESTIGATION

Investigators spent three years poring over 60,000 previously secret Dublin church files. They were handed over by Dublin Archbishop Diarmuid Martin, a veteran Vatican diplomat appointed to Dublin in 2004 with a brief to confront the scandal.

The government said the Dublin investigation "shows clearly that a systemic, calculated perversion of power and trust was visited on helpless and innocent children in the archdiocese."

"The perpetrators must continue to be brought to justice, and the people of Ireland must know that this can never happen again," the government said, also apologizing for the state's failure to hold church authorities accountable to the law.

The 720-page report—delivered to the government in July but released Thursday after extensive legal vetting—analyzes the cases of 46 priests against whom 320 complaints were filed. The 46 were selected from more than 150 Dublin priests implicated in molesting or raping boys and girls since 1940.

Thanks for the troops

8 SPC John Dever of Chicago with Blackfoot Company 1st Battalion 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment has Thanksgiving dinner Thursday while standing watch in a guard tower in Matakhan, Afghanistan. The soldiers of Blackfoot were served pre-packaged turkey breasts, cranberries, potatoes, stuffing and pie. GETTY IMAGES

9 Aliens in Colorado?

SAN LUIS, Colo. A creepy string of calf mutilations in southern Colorado has a rancher and sheriff's officials mystified, and a UFO chaser thinks extraterrestrials are involved.

Four calves were found dead and skinned in a pasture just north of the New Mexico state line in recent weeks.

But rancher Manuel Sanchez has found no signs of human attackers—such as footprints or ATV tracks—or animal attackers—such as pools of blood. Sheriff's officers tell The Pueblo Chieftan they're baffled.

It's led to speculation the mutilations are the work of aliens. An area UFO chaser, Chuck Zukowski of Colorado Springs, says another calf was found dead near Trinidad earlier this year, its ears removed.

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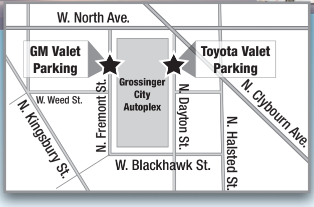

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sports

Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers is pressured by Detroit's Cliff Avril during the fourth quarter. AP

Rodgers rocks Lions

Associated Press

The Detroit Lions used to take a lot of pride in playing on Thanksgiving.

Lately, the Lions have been getting embarrassed when the nation tunes in to watch them.

NFC NORTH		
Minnesota	9-1	.900
Green Bay	7-4	.636
Bears	4-6	.400
Detroit	2-9	.182

Aaron Rodgers matched a career high with three touchdown passes and Charles Woodson grabbed two of his team's four interceptions, giving the Green Bay Packers a 34-12 win over Detroit.

The Lions have lost six straight games on the holiday, setting a franchise record, by an average of 23.2 points and eight of nine in the showcase game. The latest loss was an emotional setback for Detroit (2-9) four days after Matthew Stafford's gutsy play capped its biggest comeback win since 1957.

"It's a different feeling in this locker room—especially on national television to come out like that," Detroit center Dominic Raiola said.

Green Bay (7-4) has won three straight since losing to Tampa Bay to improve its postseason prospects.

"We can't talk about the playoffs yet," Packers receiver Donald Driver said.

Berrian bites

Ex-Bears player says defense no longer intimidating; Tillman not responding

Chicago Tribune

Charles Tillman is likely to have at least one encounter Sunday with Bernard Berrian. The Bears cornerback even might get a hit or two in on his ex-teammate, now a Vikings receiver.

But in terms of engaging in a war of words after Berrian has said the Bears defense is not intimidating anymore, Tillman would rather respond on the field

"I think we need to show up," Tillman said of the defense. "I know Bernard. I don't think it was a cheap shot on his part. That's just Bernard talking. ... We need to let our play do all the talking for us."

According to the St. Paul Pioneer Press, Berrian, a 2004 third-round draft pick of the Bears, had this to say when asked about the intimidating reputation of the Bears defense.

"I think it is gone," he said. "People being intimidated about who they have around there, that isn't working for them anymore. But they still have some exceptional players."

The numbers back Berrian's point.

The Bears ranked third in points allowed, fifth in total defense and sixth in rushing defense during the 2006 Super Bowl season. After 10 games this season, the Bears are ranked 18th in points allowed, 23rd in rushing defense and 30th in red-zone defense.

Such statistics make you wonder how the defense would have fared if Brian Urlacher had not been lost to a wrist injury, if Mike Brown had been given one more year and if Chris Harris had not been traded before the 2007 season.

BEARS HITS

Israel Idonije said "of course" he was fined for pulling Donovan McNabb's face mask last Sunday but declined to reveal the amount. Anthony Adams and Nick Roach were fined $5,000 each for face mask penalties earlier this season, so Idonije likely received the same.

» Right guard Roberto Garza returned to practice Thursday after being held out Wednesday with a right ankle injury. He was limited. Tight end Desmond Clark (neck) was held out Thursday, while tight end Kellen Davis (ankle), defensive tackle Tommie Harris (knee) and safety Kevin Payne (lower back) all had full participation. TRIBUNE

Living in the past won't help the Bears against Brett Favre, Adrian Peterson and the Vikings, who probably have the most balanced offensive attack the Bears will face all season. The Bears can only hope Favre falls back into bad old throwing habits and Peterson continues to be limited by a nagging ankle injury.

Berrian's comments shouldn't be the fuel the Bears need to defend better anyway. Their dismal 4-6 record should be enough of a catalyst.

"He has the right to his opinion," defensive tackle Israel Idonije said. "We haven't played our best. But anybody who says we haven't shown flashes of being a great defense, they're lying.

"Sunday is an opportunity for us to change [Berrian's] opinion. Guys are focused right now. We need to go out and execute."

Berrian GETTY IMAGES FILE

FOUR SCORE

Every week before the Bears game, RedEye's crew gets to the point.

BRIAN MOORE twitter.com/redeyesports

Minnesota 38, Bears 22

The only thing uglier than this game is the Metrodome itself.

LEE PIKELNY themash@tribune.com

Bears 40, Minnesota 26

After saying Jay Cutler is better at this stage of his career than himself, Brett Favre will watch the Bears match his age while the Vikings match Cutler's.

WHIZZER redeyesports@tribune.com

Minnesota 44, Bears 24

Brett Favre will break the record for records broken in a single game. Translation: Not good for Bears.

BAG BOY redeyesports@tribune.com

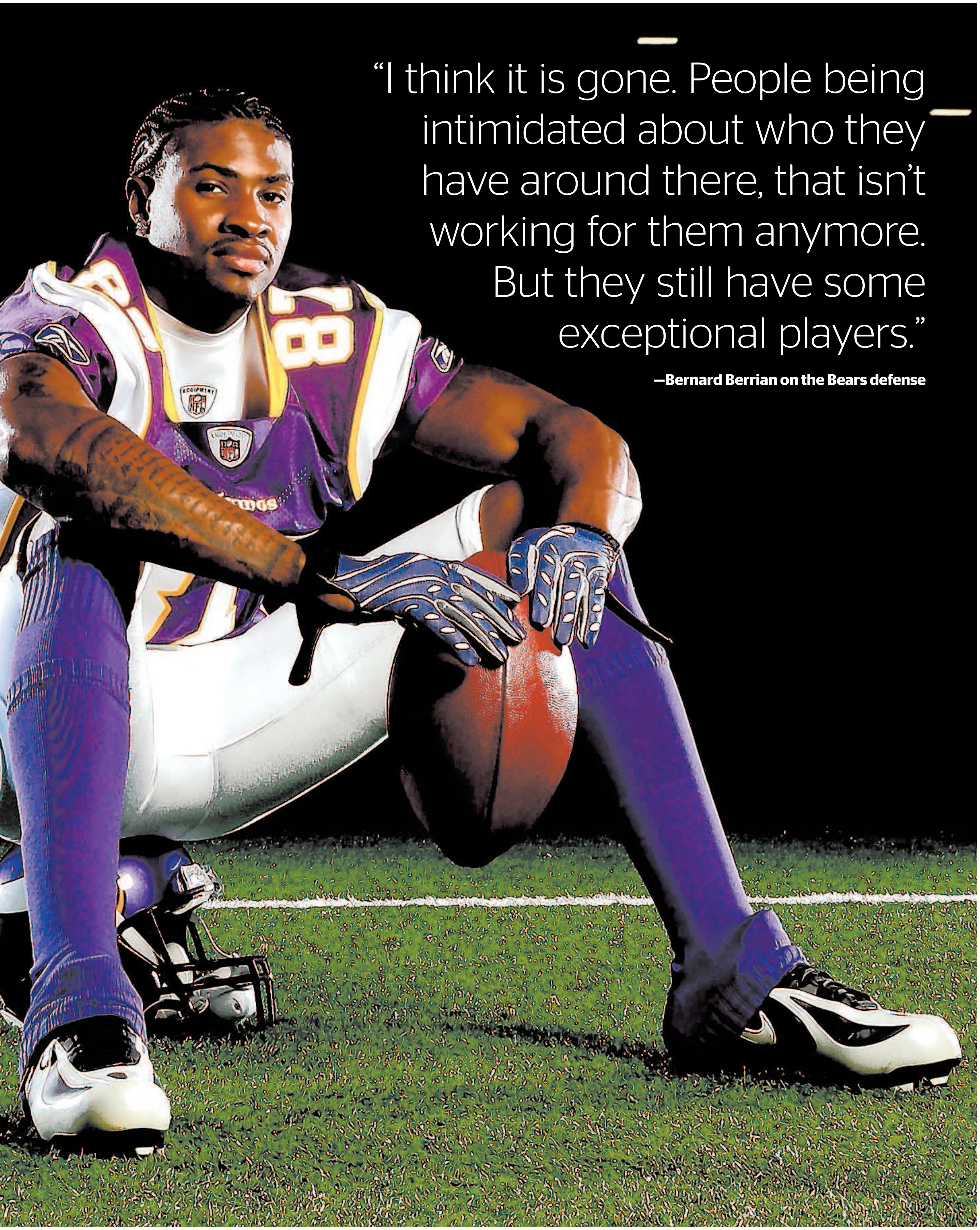
Minnesota 41, Bears 13

As if I needed another reason to hate Brett Favre.

WATCH DOG

Bears at Minnesota *3:15 p.m. Sunday, Fox*

It's a good thing this wasn't the Thanksgiving game, because it just might have made you throw up your turkey dinner.



"I think it is gone. People being intimidated about who they have around there, that isn't working for them anymore. But they still have some exceptional players."

—Bernard Berrian on the Bears defense

Giving thanks for Hawks

sacked again

BAG BOY

redeyesports @tribune.com

It's a good weekend for giving thanks around here.

For what, I don't know, because other than the Blackhawks, I'm not seeing a whole lot.

A quick word on the Hawks: I love them. I do. Marian Hossa, you were worth the wait, sir. All of this excitement and winning, it has almost made me forget these guys were off the map in Chicago, if that's even possible.

But you can come back—and come back strong. From where I'm seated, they are the best in the NHL. Of course, that usually means an early exit from the playoffs, but the excitement is there.

That's really it. Look around. Oh, the White Sox have been busy in the off-season, I see. I'm already producing a documentary on the 2010 season. I'm calling it "40-something."

Hey, Kenny Williams, enough with the infatuation with old guys. As if the Bartolo Colon lesson wasn't enough, I see you signed Omar Vizquel and now, Andruw Jones. What Florida is for regular folks, Chicago is becoming for aging sports figures. It's where you go to finish off the last years, fade quietly and ... you know.

Sorry, I can't get fired up about this. I would have liked both of these guys like five years ago, but now they're window dressing.

That brings us to football. I'm thankful for juicy rumors, even silly ones I make up just to keep me occupied.

That's what happens when the present staff fails miserably. I say they all can go.

Mike Martz: offensive coordinator. Silly rumor, you say; bring it, I say.

How about Bill Cowher as head coach, Martz as offensive coordinator, and Mike Holmgren as club president? I think that gets us in the $50 million range.

One thing's for sure. Jay Cutler is staying, and it's everyone else that is going.

I have no problem with that. I don't think just hiring a new offensive coordinator is going to cut it.

I want blood. A house cleaning—no, a house gutting, if you will.

So happy holidays. That's how I roll.

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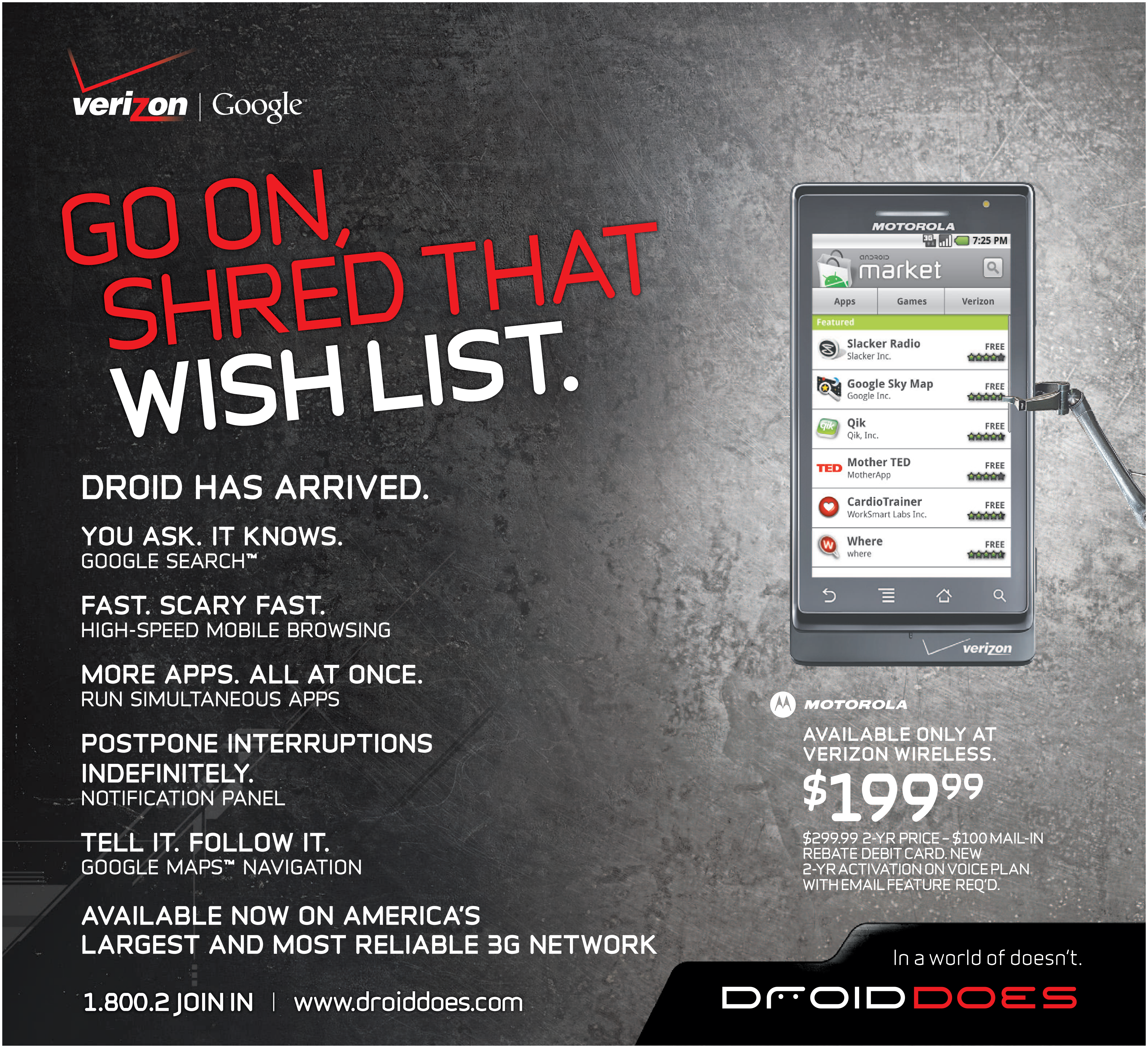

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1127AD

Brett next

We hope you all gave thanks that you didn't have to suffer through these five on Thursday. Play along at **redeyechicago.com/5on5**.

TOPIC	JIMMY GREENFIELD jgreenfield@chicagonow.com	BRIAN MOORE brmoore@tribune.com	KEVIN PANG cheeseburgershow.com	SARAH SPAIN chicagonow.com/sarahspain	EVIL SUPERCOMPUTER redeyesports@tribune.com
1 Brett Favre is to Jay Cutler as ...	... Jay Cutler is to dreaming about being as good as Brett Favre.	... Brett Favre in 10 more years is to Jay Cutler.	... Foghorn Leghorn is to Chicken Hawk	Jay-Z (unretired and better than ever) is to Kanye (doing his best to foul up a good gig).	Macs are to PCs. Sorry, my brothers.
2 How would you describe the 2009 Bears to someone who knows nothing about football?	Remember getting pantsed in sixth grade? Yeah, like that.	The Titanic also was billed as unsinkable.	"So, it's like the Battlestar Galactica fleet, except they fall to the Cylon race ..."	Super Bowl-bound. Ignorance is bliss!	They are the Washington Generals of the NFL.
3 What's your favorite Thanksgiving sports tradition?	Eating turkey stolen from the homes of Detroit Lions players.	Seeing how many yams Kevin can stuff in his mouth at one time.	Jell-O Twister with the in-laws.	Beating the boys in flag football.	Counting the no-lifes in line for Black Friday sales.
4 How can Marian Hossa top his two-goal debut for the Blackhawks?	Get hurt, then return and score a hat trick.	I know this is a stretch, but ... three goals?	Start his line of "Don't Hassle the Hoss" sports apparel.	By not being the Stanley Cup curse come playoff time.	Beat me at "NHL 10." I own him.
5 Thanksgiving NFL football without John Madden's turducken is like ...	... Thanksgiving morning without Brian's walk of shame.	... any other NFL broadcast: just not the same.	... your arterial walls without the plaque build-up.	... 60 percent less fat—and no turducken either.	... a computer with no keyboard.

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Manny Malhotra (left) of the San Jose Sharks guards Blackhawk Marian Hossa during Wednesday's game. GETTY IMAGES

Hawks hit new high

LOS ANGELES Early in the second period of their dismantling of the Sharks on Wednesday night, the Blackhawks went from being good to scary good.

The Hawks faced a big test against the Western Conference-leading Sharks in their own tank, and they scored a definitive "A-plus" to show they're not only the class of the conference—but also the NHL.

The Hawks have reeled off eight consecutive victories and have done it in convincing fashion. The defense and goaltending have been stellar, the offense explosive and the special teams almost as good.

"It was a great test and we passed this test," Marian Hossa said after the 7-2 annihilation of the Sharks. "We just proved we can play against anybody."

Make that everybody.

Hossa's debut went about as well as it could have. The veteran winger scored twice and showed how terrific a player he is on both ends of the ice in any situation. As soon as he stepped onto the ice for his first game since undergoing offseason shoulder surgery, it was clear he was the best player out there. And he was playing alongside Hawks wunderkinds Jonathan Toews and Patrick Kane.

That vaunted San Jose line of Joe Thornton, Dany Heatley and Patrick Marleau? It looked more like Huey, Dewey and Louie in comparison to the Hawks' Big Three.

The Hawks have won the first four games of what is usually a disappointing circus trip and have Anaheim and L.A. left. Friday afternoon they will look to match their franchise record of nine consecutive victories set last season before visiting the Kings on Saturday night. Neither place is easy to win in, but the Hawks' confidence is soaring after they made it look simple in San Jose, where the Sharks hadn't lost in regulation all season.

The ascent of the Hawks, which was ignited last season when they made a run to the Western Conference finals, even has caught the players by surprise.

"It has come quicker than I expected," said veteran defenseman Brian Campbell, who joined the Hawks via free agency in '08 in part because he liked the team's future. "I don't think anybody could have predicted that. I knew they had good young players, I just didn't know how good."

» Sammy Sosa is being sued for $203,000 by a businessman who claims the former Cub owes him for commission on a house sale, among other things. In legal documents obtained by The Associated Press, Sosa has been ordered to appear in a Dominican court Dec. 2.

» Strong-armed senior quarterback Tony Pike is expected to run Cincinnati's offense Friday when the fifth-ranked Bearcats (10-0) play their final home game against Illinois (3-7).

» Andy Murray wasted 12 of 13 break points before overcoming Fernando Verdasco 6-4, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (3) Thursday to close in on a semifinal spot at the ATP World Tour Finals.

» Bulls at Utah, late » Illinois vs. Utah, 9:30 p.m. Friday » Green Bay's Charles Woodson donates $2 million to the University of Michigan Mott Children's Hospital and Women's Hospital.

watch dog

WHIZZER
redeyesports@tribune.com

Yesterday I stuffed myself with turkey. Today, I stuff myself with sports. Tomorrow, the world. Here now, my TV picks.

NHL

Blackhawks at Anaheim

3 p.m. CSN

Patrick Kane, Jonathan Toews and Marian Hossa are a three-sticked beast. Oh, that sounds weird.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Illinois at Cincinnati

11 a.m. ABC

This is the first time these two schools are meeting. Hope there's no awkward introductions.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Northwestern vs. Notre Dame

7:30 p.m. Big Ten Network

How did the Irish get invited to the Chicago Invitational Challenge? South Bend is no Chicago.

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Artistic Director

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Walking Mad with dancers Benjamin Wardell, Terence Marling, Kevin Shannon, Jason Hortin and Kellie Epperheimer. Photo by Todd Rosenberg.

metromix

Keeping it real

reader reviews

metromix.com

5 new spots, 10 different takes

When there's a big opening, everyone's got an opinion—some more enthusiastic than others. Here's a look at what you're saying on **metromix.com** about this season's hottest new bars and restaurants.

Sweetwater
FILE FOR METROMIX

Cuvee

308 W. Erie St. 312-202-9221

The owners of River North's Enclave are behind this club and ultra-lounge touting a menu of sparkling wines and champagne cocktails. Enter through the back alley and head up the stairs—but first, you've got to get past the door staff.

Loving it: "This place is great and exclusive for a reason! If you're not dressed in your finest, don't even bother. You definitely won't be making it beyond the velvet ropes." —BETHDD, RIVER NORTH

Reality check: "Going through a back alley, looking for a club located in a post-industrial setting and waiting in line hoping the bouncers will let you in ... this type of venue went out of style a decade ago. ... If paying the $20 cover charge so that employees make you feel 'elite' isn't your sort of thing, then don't bother with this place." —SKYDUSTER, NORWOOD PARK

DMK Burger Bar

2954 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-360-8686

Michael Kornick (of River North's MK) is part of the team behind this chef-driven Lakeview burger joint with a noisy bar-like atmosphere and a menu featuring grass-fed beef and lamb patties as well as turkey, veggie and portobello options with toppings such as chipotle ketchup and artisan cheeses.

Loving it: "Great value, great atmosphere, great drinks, great service and great food! This makes for a five-star rating for me! The staff went above and beyond ... My veggie burger was the best I have ever had!" —TBRASSELL, ROGERS PARK

Reality check: "We were greeted by a very friendly staff and sat right away, [but] I was simply disappointed with the food. The burgers are quite small and just OK. ... The tables and chairs were also really small. Unfortunately, the bill didn't end up being very small." —CKD, OAK PARK

Sweetwater

225 N. Michigan Ave. 312-698-7111

This Loop bar and grill, a sibling to the Boundary in Wicker Park, takes its name from both the location (the corner of South Water Street and Michigan Avenue) and pride in a solid stock of "sweet water," from beer to spirits.

Loving it: "The food was very good and the place is sleek. This corner of the Loop needed something like this." —CHICAGOGIRL327

Reality check: "We went expecting something from the North Side, but found 'tourista': high prices, OK food, hard surfaces, loud sports, high turnover and not a very Chicago feel." —HELLOJOE, PRINTER'S ROW

Belly Shack

1912 N. Western Ave. 773-252-1414

Asian and Latin flavors converge at this counter-service BYOB from the Urban Belly crew, where a concise salad-, soup- and sandwich-focused menu salutes chef Bill Kim's Korean heritage and his wife's Puerto Rican background.

Loving it: "The preparation and flavors were outstanding. ... If you're looking for cutting-edge flavors made with fresh, seasonal ingredients for a few bucks more, then Belly Shack is for you." —VTSHEEN, ROSCOE VILLAGE

Reality check: "Expect to drop a bundle if you plan on even coming close to filling up here. ... My wife and I spent about 35 bucks for two very modestly sized sandwiches (with no sides) and a very small salad to share ... no drinks, no dessert, no service." —RAINYSEASON, BUCKTOWN

Old Town Social

455 W. North Ave. 312-266-2277

Old Town's new grown-up gathering place identifies as a neighborhood spot but boasts some features that set it apart from the pack, including food from former Rick Tramanto right-hand man Jared Van Camp.

Loving it: "This is a wonderful place! I am a huge fan of charcuterie, and this was absolutely fantastic. The cheese plate was also delicious—really tasty! The staff was very friendly, and the whole place had a lively but relaxed neighborhood atmosphere." —CLAIR20B, ANDERSONVILLE

Reality check: "Menu choices: awesome. Food: delicious. Atmosphere: quirky [but] doesn't really match the food. Service: so bad I remember [it] more than the great food." —CWD123, LINCOLN PARK

COMPILED FROM POSTINGS ON METROMIX.COM. METROMIX@TRIBUNE.COM

best bets

By Rebecca Palmore
rkpalmore@tribune.com

fri 27

Ass '09

Donny's Skybox Theatre, 1608 N. Wells St. 312-337-3992

Relive the best in bad behavior as sketch troupe Creepy Hug skewers asinine acts by politicians and celebs. 7:30 p.m. Through Dec. 18. $10-$12.

SuperSize Thanksgiving

Transit, 1431 W. Lake St.

Work off your holiday feast as DJs Sultan and Pascale spin international beats, house and hip-hop. 10 p.m. $20. 773-490-0975.

Speed dating party

Leg Room, 7 W. Division St.

Want to line up a cold-weather cutie? Meet singles (ages 22-32 and 33-43) for fast dates. Drink specials include $2 glasses of house bubbly and $3 domestic bottles. 8 p.m. $35. RSVP required: **dateanddash.com**

sat 28

Rock 'n' Shop

Bice, 158 E. Ontario St. 312-664-1474

FREE Take a bite out of holiday shopping inside the Gold Coast restaurant, where JLee Silver and other local designers sell apparel and accessories. Includes DJ Earnest Streeter. Noon Saturday-Sunday. Through Dec. 20.

Bucktown Bazaar

FREE

Holstein Park Fieldhouse, 2200 N. Oakley Ave.

Can't make Christmas gifts for your coterie? These artists have your back. Browse handmade arts and crafts such as jewelry, house wares and clothing. 11 a.m. Through Sunday. 773-263-5882.

sun 29

Cupcake boot camp

Chopping Block, 222 Merchandise Mart Plaza. 312-644-6360

When it comes to this hands-on class, the icing on the cake really is icing on the cake. How's that for awesome? Learn how to make and decorate scores of cupcakes. Includes lunch. 10 a.m. $90.

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POST-THANKSGIVING PARTIES

BUTTERFLY SOCIAL CLUB
9 p.m.: One Love. DJ Papa G. spins reggae. No cover; 722 W. Grand Ave. 312-666-1695.

DARKROOM
9 p.m.: Kings Go Forth. The soul band performs with the Diplomats of Solid Sound. Windy City Soul Club spins. $8-$10; 2210 W. Chicago Ave. 773-276-1411.

ENCLAVE
9 p.m.: Moda-Chic: Runway to Retail. A fashion show (11 p.m.) features styles from Custo Barcelona, Dismero and Lili of Trieste. Includes 4 Rebels vodka cocktails and tapas (9-11 p.m.) and gift bags for the first 100 guests. DJs Funky Couture and John Curley spin. $15-$25; 220 W. Chicago Ave. 312-654-0234.

THE SHRINE
9 p.m.: The Sophisticate. $150 Effen and Courvoisier bottles, DJs Jay Illa and Izzo spin. $20; 2109 S. Wabash Ave. 312-753-5700.

SOUND-BAR
10 p.m.: Release Friday. DJs Danny Boy, Inphinity, DJ Technique, Victor R, NOR DJs and Billy the Kid spin. $20. RSVP at **sound-bar.com** for reduced admission; 226 W. Ontario St. 312-787-4480.

SMART BAR
10 p.m.: LA Riots. Darkwave Disco DJs, Team Bayside High spin. $10. Free before 11 p.m. 3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203.

SPYBAR
10 p.m.: DJ Luciano spins. $10; **clubtix.net**; 646 N. Franklin St. 312-337-2191.

Spybar
FILE FOR METROMIX

TRANSIT
10 p.m.: SuperSize Thanksgiving. DJs Sultan and Pascale spin Arabic, Latin, Russian, house and hip-hop at the annual bash. $20; 1431 W. Lake St. 773-490-0975.

FRIDAY DEALS

AVENUE TAVERN
$2 PBR drafts, $10 Miller Lite pitchers, $12 margarita pitchers; 2916 N. Broadway. 773-975-7000.

THE BEER BISTRO
$4 draft of the month; 1061 W. Madison St. 312-433-0013.

BRANDO'S SPEAKEASY
$1 lemon drop shots, $2 PBR cans; 343 S. Dearborn St. 312-265-1823.

CANS BAR
DJ Chris Gin spins old school 10 p.m.; 1640 N. Damen Ave. 773-227-2277.

CLYBAR AND GRILLE
Frisky Fridays. $20 food and drink package includes Bud Light drafts, well drinks, house wine, soda and buffet (6-10 p.m.). DJ Matt spins.; 2417 N. Clybourn Ave. 773-388-1877.

CROBAR
Recession Buster Friday. $1 drinks, DJ Alec Peace and guests spin 10 p.m. Text 88202 for reduced cover; 1543 N. Kingsbury St. 312-266-1900.

DEBONAIR SOCIAL CLUB
$5 Absolut cocktails, $100 Absolut bottle service, DJs spin 9 p.m.; 1575 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-227-7990.

FINLEY MAHONY'S
$5 Irish car bombs; 3701 N. Broadway. 773-549-0226.

GARRETT RIPLEY'S
$4 beer of the month, $10 fish and chips; 712 N. Clark St. 312-642-2900.

HALSTED HARP
$3.50 import bottles, $4 Stoli drinks, $4 Harp drafts; 2138 N. Halsted St. 773-348-3665.

HIGH DIVE
$5 Maker's Mark cocktails, $5 burger with fries; 1938 W. Chicago Ave. 773-235-3483.

INNJOY
$4 Heineken, Heineken Light and Amstel Light bottles, $6 Jager bombs and Kilo Kai cocktails, $9.95 all-you-can-eat fish fry (5-10 p.m.), DJ Scratch-n-Sniff spins 10 p.m.; 2051 W. Division St. 773-394-2066.

J BAR
$5 40-day dry-aged burger (6-9 p.m.), $8 Grey Goose cocktails, $200 Grey Goose bottle service, DJ Meg spins 10 p.m. RSVP to **andy@jameshotels.com**; 610 N. Rush St. 312-660-7200.

KELSEY'S
$2.50 Goose Island drafts, $3 domestic bottles and drafts, $3.50 import drafts, $5 4 Rebels vodka cocktails; 2265 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-348-1666.

LONG ROOM
$4 select microbrew drafts; 1612 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-665-4500.

MCFADDEN'S
$1 Land Shark drafts, half-price quesadillas and nachos; 1206 N. State Pkwy. 312-475-9450.

MOONSHINE
$4 microbrew drafts; 1824 W. Division St. 773-862-8686.

PASHA
Buy one, get one free tapas; 802 W. Randolph St. 312-243-4442.

THE PONY
$4 Corona and Negra Modelo bottles, half-off all food (4-8 p.m.); 1638 W. Belmont Ave. 773-828-5055.

ROCKIT BAR & GRILL
$3 select cocktails, $15 beer pitchers; 3700 N. Clark St. 312-645-6000.

SCARLET
$4 domestics, well drinks and glasses of wine; 3320 N. Halsted St. 773-348-1053.

SUBTERRANEAN
$3 beer of the month, $4 flavored vodka cocktails. $5; 2011 W. North Ave. 773-278-6600.

T'S
$7 double pints; 5025 N. Clark St. 773-784-6000.

UNION PARK
$5 Absolut martinis, half-price entrees; 228 S. Racine Ave. 312-243-9002.

WATERHOUSE
$5 specialty cocktails, $15 beer-of-the-month buckets, DJ Calvin Cornel spins 10 p.m.; 3407 N. Paulina St. 773-871-1200.

METROMIX'S TOP SHOWS

Sam Roberts Band

SAM ROBERTS BAND
Just great pop-rock songs, simple as that. With Jonny Rumble.
9:30 p.m. Fri. $15. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. **housecallent.com**

EZRA FURMAN AND THE HARPOONS
Buy Furman's new album and he'll write you a song. With The Sleeptalkers, Club for Heroes.
9 p.m. Fri. $10-$12. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

EDWARD SHARPE AND THE MAGNETIC ZEROS
Far out, man. With Fool's Gold, Local Natives.
10 p.m. Fri. $12. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

FLOBOTS
Rap-rock that's better than you'd think. With Kinetix, Kidd Russell.
7 p.m. Sat. $16. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

THE BIG PINK, CRYSTAL ANTLERS
There's going to be some spacing out. With White Car.
10 p.m. Fri. $13. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

FRIDAY CONCERTS

AS FORTY SLEEPS, RED CITY, THE MINORITY CLUB, SATURDAY JUNE
8:30 p.m. $9. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

THE ATARIS, THE HALLOW, LOVE AND SQUALOR
9 p.m. $12-$15. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. **housecallent.com**

THE BOTTLE ROCKETS, THE GIVING TREE BAND
9:30 p.m. $15. FitzGerald's, 6615 Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn. 708-788-2118.

FREDDY JONES BAND, STELLAR ROAD
8:30 p.m. $25-$30. Park West, 322 W. Armitage Ave. 773-929-5959.

GEMINI CLUB, CAMERA, GREEN, BOMBBONE
9 p.m. $8-$10. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

HAWTHORNE HEIGHTS, JUST SURRENDER, MONTY ARE I, THE STORY CHANGES, THE NIGHTBEAST
6 p.m. $13-$15. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

THE JESUS LIZARD, MODEL/ACTRESS
9 p.m. Sold out. Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203.

JOSEPH ARTHUR, THE HORSE'S HA
8 p.m. $18-$22. Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-728-6000.

LOTUS, THE HOOD INTERNET
9 p.m. $22-$25. Vic Theatre, 3145 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-472-0449.

MOENIA
8 p.m. $20. Congress Theatre, 2135 N. Milwaukee Ave. 312-823-9454.

NOMO, ALLA
10:30 p.m. $12. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

OLD FAKE, BLASTED DIPLOMATS, PRICHARD
10 p.m. $8. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

PEACEGIVING 2009: GENRAL PATTON AND HIS PRIVATES, POVERTY TAX, KING PIGNACIOUS
9 p.m. $7 or 10 cans of food. Red Line Tap, 7006 N. Glenwood Ave. 773-274-5463.

THE REMEMBERWHENS, YAWN
9 p.m. $7. Ronny's, 2101 N. California Ave. **mpshows.com**

THE TWILIGHT AND THE SOUND, THE PLAYOFF, DEVON KAY AND THE SOLUTIONS
8 p.m. $7-$10. Bottom Lounge, 1375 W. Lake St. 312-666-6775.

SATURDAY

ANGRY CHAIR, VASOLINE, REARVIEW
9 p.m. $10-$12. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

THE BLAKES, TEAM BAND
10:30 p.m. $10-$12. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

BRETT DENNEN, GRACE POTTER AND THE NOCTURNALS
7:30 p.m. $20-$23. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

COMPANY OF THIEVES, ANNUALS, BIG SCIENCE
8 p.m. $12-$14. Logan Square Auditorium, 2539 N. Kedzie Ave. 773-252-6179.

CORNMEAL
8 p.m. $17-$20. Vic Theatre, 3145 N.

»» page 25

««« page 24

Sheffield Ave. 773-472-0449.

EURO REGGAE FEST: INNER CIRCLE, JAMAL, MARIKA, REBEL ROOTS, NATURAL DREAD KILLAZ, DREADSQUAD
6 p.m. $35-$39. Congress Theatre, 2135 N. Milwaukee Ave. 312-823-9454.

FILLIGAR, BRICE WOODALL, EVAN HOLMES AND EXIT GHOST
9 p.m. $8. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. **housecallent.com**

NITZER EBB, KILL CRASH MEMORY, THE GLIDE
9 p.m. $20. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

PSYCHOSTICK, AUDIOBON, OUI SI ONLY YOU
7 p.m. $10-$13. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

THE SADIES
9 p.m. $10. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

STATE AND MADISON, URBANITES, WINDSOR DRIVE
5:30 p.m. $8-$10. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. **housecallent.com**

THEM JEANS, WILLY JOY, MILLION $ MANO, MONEYPENNY, KID COLOR, GEMINI CLUB
10 p.m. $10. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

THE WHITE TIE AFFAIR, EVERY AVENUE, STEREO SKYLINE
Noon. $13. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

SUNDAY

ARAH AND THE FERNS, AGENT RIBBONS
8:30 p.m. $8. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. **housecallent.com**

ENSIFERUM, HYPOCRISY, EX DEO, BLACKGUARD
6 p.m. $20-$23. Logan Square Auditorium, 2539 N. Kedzie Ave. 773-252-6179.

JIMMY BENNINGTON'S COLOUR AND SOUND
8 p.m. $10 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Devon, 1401 W. Devon Ave. 773-465-9801.

MEGITZA QUARTET
9 p.m. Free. The Whistler, 2421 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-227-3530.

THE SOMETIMES FAMILY, STEVEN GILPIN, MIA LEBLON
8:30 p.m. $8. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. **housecallent.com**

SUZY BRACK AND THE NEW JACK LORDS, PICK NOERR, BABY MAGIC, BAMBI RAPTOR
8 p.m. $3. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

TODAY FOR TOMORROW, THE INDEED, THE SKYFALL
8:30 p.m. $7. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

TICKETBOOTH *your on-sale concert guide*

ON SALE NOON FRIDAY

Atlas Sound, Icy Demons, Shapers, Friday, Jan. 15 ($15, 18+) at Lincoln Hall.

GB Leighton, Saturday, Feb. 6 ($12, 21+) at Schubas.

Southeast Engine, Chaperone, Jared Bartman, Saturday, Jan. 9 ($8, 21+) at Schubas.

ON SALE 10 A.M. SATURDAY

The Good Life, Tuesday, Dec. 29 ($12, 17+) at Subterranean.

People Under the Stairs, Kenan Bell, Thursday, Jan. 28 ($13-$15, 17+) at Subterranean.

ON SALE NOON SATURDAY

Anxiety High, The House That Gloria Vanderbilt, Saturday, Feb. 27 ($10, 21+) at Double Door.

Evan Dando, Friday, Feb. 19 ($15, 21+) at Double Door.

Mathew Jonson, Sassmouth, Friday, Feb. 19 ($5-$15, 21+) at Smart Bar.

Atlas Sound

Nick Oliveri, Monday, Feb. 1 ($10, 21+) at Double Door.

Omar S., David Powers, Friday, Jan. 15 ($5-$15, 21+) at Smart Bar.

Papadosio, Thursday, Feb. 11 ($7, 21+) at Double Door.

Tommie Sunshine, Traxx, Greg Corner, Friday, Jan. 22 ($5-$15, 21+) at Smart Bar.

ON SALE NOW

Deathships, I Luv Luvbirds, Worlds Fair, Friday, Jan. 8 ($8, 21+) at Martyrs'.

DJ ESP aka Woody McBride, Projekt Soundsystem, Friday, Jan. 8 (free-$10, 21+) at Smart Bar.

Hammerfall, Powerglove, Monday, March 15 ($26, all ages) at Metro.

Lasers and Fast and S*, Old Fake, Call Me Lightning, Driftless Pony Club,** Sunday, Dec. 20 ($9, 18+) at Metro.

Liquor Boxx, Grun Tu Molani, Oui Si Only You, Wednesday, Jan. 13 ($7, 21+) at Martyrs'.

Lucid Ground, Minus the Girl, Model Stranger, Kelroy, Trainwreck Symphony, Friday, Dec. 11 ($11, 18+) at Metro.

Skank, Losing Scarlet, Inn Cinema, Seven Day Sonnet, Westbury, Friday, Jan. 8 ($11, all ages) at Metro.

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Massage School Experience
- Woodridge: December 9 / 6-8pm
- Loop: December 13 / 12-4pm

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pop

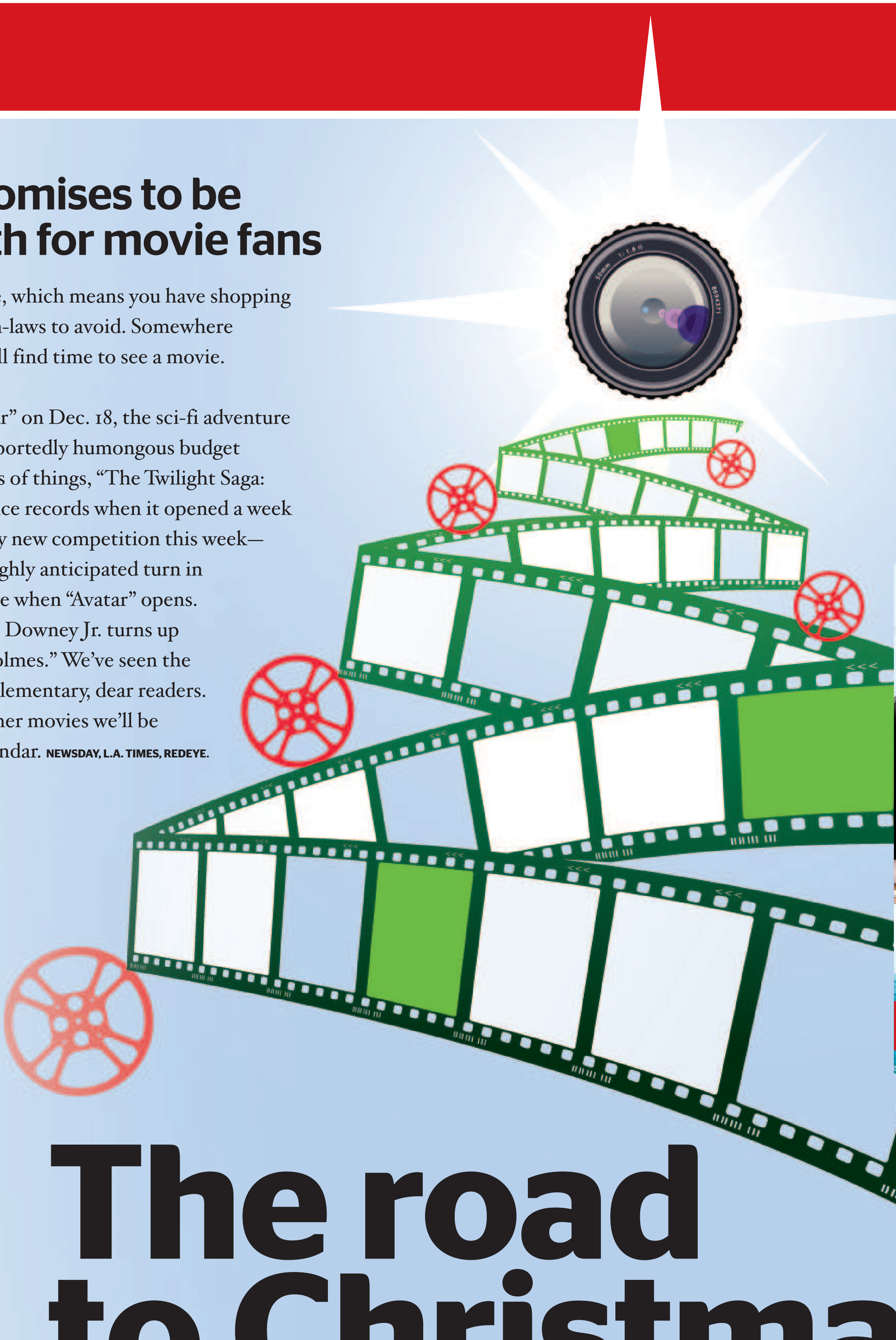
December promises to be thrilling month for movie fans

The busy holiday season is here, which means you have shopping to do, dinners to prepare and in-laws to avoid. Somewhere in there, the studios hope, you'll find time to see a movie.

Which to choose?

Fox is hoping it will be "Avatar" on Dec. 18, the sci-fi adventure from James Cameron with a reportedly humongous budget of $500 million. From the looks of things, "The Twilight Saga: New Moon," which set box office records when it opened a week ago and is poised to trounce any new competition this week—including Viggo Mortensen's highly anticipated turn in "The Road"—still will be a force when "Avatar" opens.

A week after "Avatar," Robert Downey Jr. turns up in a rocket-fueled "Sherlock Holmes." We've seen the previews, and we're there. It's elementary, dear readers. Here's a look at some of the other movies we'll be marking on our December calendar. NEWSDAY, L.A. TIMES, REDEYE.



'Up in the Air' PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Right now

'THE ROAD'
After the apocalypse, a drifter (Viggo Mortensen) tries to protect his son (Kodi Smit-McPhee). It's based on a Cormac McCarthy novel, the last one being the smash hit "No Country for Old Men."

'The Road' DIMENSION FILMS

'THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON'
The vampire-human-werewolf love story has taken the world by storm.

The road to Christmas

'Avatar'
20TH CENTURY FOX

Dec. 4

'UP IN THE AIR'
A corporate downsizing expert's cherished life on the road is threatened just as he is on the cusp of reaching 10 million frequent flyer miles and has met the woman of his dreams. With George Clooney, Vera Farmiga, Anna Kendrick.

'BROTHERS'
When a decorated Marine goes missing in Afghanistan, his black-sheep younger brother cares for his wife and children at home. With Tobey Maguire, Jake Gyllenhaal, Natalie Portman and Sam Shepard.

'EVERYBODY'S FINE'
A widower embarks on an impromptu road trip to reconnect with each of his grown children. With Robert De Niro, Kate Beckinsale, Drew Barrymore and Sam Rockwell.

'TRANSYLMANIA'
In this spoof of vampire movies, a group of college students embarks on a semester abroad deep in the heart of Transylvania. With Patrick Cavanaugh, James DeBello, Tony Denman, Paul H. Kim and Jennifer Lyons.

Dec. 11

'INVICTUS'
The true story of how Nelson Mandela joined forces with the captain of South Africa's rugby team to help unite their country. With Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon. Directed by Clint Eastwood.

'Invictus'
WARNER BROS. PICTURES

'THE LOVELY BONES'
A murdered girl watches over her family and her killer from an in-between realm. Directed by Peter Jackson. Screenplay by Fran Walsh & Philippa Boyens & Jackson.

'THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG'
In New Orleans, pretty Tiana, Disney's first animated African-American princess, kisses a frog prince.

'ME AND ORSON WELLES'
A young actor (Zac Efron) joins Orson Welles' legendary Mercury Theatre company and falls for an older woman (Claire Danes). Directed by Richard Linklater.

Dec. 18

'AVATAR'
An avatar, a human mind in an alien body, finds himself torn between two worlds in a desperate fight for his own survival and that of the indigenous people. With Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana, Stephen Lang and Sigourney Weaver. Written and directed by James Cameron. Also in IMAX 3-D.

'DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS?'
A Manhattan couple whose marriage is on the rocks witness a murder and become targets of a contract killer. With Hugh Grant and Sarah Jessica Parker.

'NINE'
This musical follows the life of world-famous film director Guido Contini as he tries to balance the numerous women in his life. With Nicole Kidman, Kate Hudson, Judi Dench, Daniel Day-Lewis, Penelope Cruz, Marion Cotillard and Sophia Loren. Directed by Rob Marshall.

'THE YOUNG VICTORIA'
Emily Blunt stars as Queen Victoria in the turbulent first years of her reign. With Rupert Friend, Paul Bettany, Miranda Richardson and Jim Broadbent.

'BROKEN EMBRACES'
Before he can move on with love, a blind writer working under a pseudonym must heal from a car accident 14 years earlier that took his wife and directing career. With Penelope Cruz. Written and directed by Pedro Almodovar.

Dec. 25

'THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS'
A traveling show in which members of the audience get to choose between light and joy or darkness and gloom is run by Dr. Parnassus, who is desperately trying to renege on a deal with the devil. With Heath Ledger, Christopher Plummer, Tom Waits, Johnny Depp, Colin Farrell and Jude Law.

'SHERLOCK HOLMES'
An updated portrayal of Arthur Conan Doyle's most famous characters, Sherlock Holmes and his stalwart partner, John Watson. With Robert Downey Jr. and Jude Law. Directed by Guy Ritchie.

'A SINGLE MAN'
Set in 1962 L.A. at the height of the Cuban missile crisis. A British college professor struggles to find meaning to his life after the death of his longtime partner. With Colin Firth and Julianne Moore. Directed by Tom Ford.

'IT'S COMPLICATED'
A divorced mother is caught up in a love triangle when she renews a romance with her ex. With Meryl Streep, Steve Martin and Alec Baldwin.

'Sherlock Holmes'
WARNER BROS. PICTURES

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MOTION PICTURE DIRECTORY

♿ Handicapped Access ◆ Digital Sound ✔ Dolby Stereo ★ No Passes Hearing - Impaired

G - General audience PG - Parental guidence suggested
PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13
R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian
NC-17 - No one 17 and under admitted

600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC)
600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily ♿

AMC Select - The best specialty films

- **Old Dogs** (PG) 10:35,1:00,3:15,5:30,7:45,10:00
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 10:30,1:30,4:45,8:00,11:15
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 11:15,12:30,2:30,3:45,5:45,7:00,9:00,10:15
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 10:15,1:15,4:15,7:30,10:30
- **2012** (PG–13) 10:45,11:45,2:15,3:30,6:15,7:15,9:45,10:45
- **Christmas Carol** (PG) 11:00,1:40,4:00,6:45,9:15
- **Michael Jackson** (PG) 11:30,2:45,5:20,8:15
- **Paranormal Act** (R) 11:00 P.M.

LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)
2828 North Clark St., Chicago
(773) 509-4949

- **Bad Lieutenant** (R) 11:10,1:55,4:40,7:25,10:10
- **A Serious Man** (R) 11:25,2:00,4:45,7:30,10:05
- **An Education** (PG–13) 11:15,1:45,4:20,7:00,9:45
- **Red Cliff** (R) 1:35,5:00,8:30
- **Coco Before** (PG–13) 11:00,1:30,4:10,7:10,9:50
- **New York** (R) 11:20,1:50,4:25,7:20,9:55
- **Fantastic Fox** (PG) 11:30,2:00,4:50,7:15,9:30

CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)
2600 N. Western Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1642

- **Ninja Assassin** (R) ★ 10:10,12:40,3:20,6:15,7:20,9:15,10:15
- **Old Dogs** (PG) ★ 9:50,11:20,12:20,1:45,3:00,4:10,5:20,6:40,7:50,9:00,10:20
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) ★ 10:15,1:15,4:20
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) ★ 12:50,3:50,6:50,9:50
- **Planet 51** (PG) ★ 9:45,12:10,2:45,5:10,7:40,10:05
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) ★ 10:00,10:30,11:00,1:00,1:30,2:00, 4:00,4:30,5:00,7:00,7:30,8:00,10:00,10:30,11:00
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) ★ (Closed caption) 12:30,3:30,6:30,9:30
- **2012** (PG–13) 10:40,12:15,2:20,3:40,6:05,7:10,9:40,10:35
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 11:30,2:10,4:40,7:15,9:45
- **Precious: Novel** (R) 11:45,2:30,5:30,8:15,10:45

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)
4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
(773) 784-0893

- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) ★ 11:30,2:10,4:45,7:20,10:00
- **Planet 51** (PG) ★ 11:30,1:30,3:30,5:30,7:30,9:30
- **2012** (PG–13) 12:30,3:40,6:45,9:50
- **Men Who Stare** (R) 12:15,2:15,4:15,6:15,8:15,10:15

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)
S. Cicero at 76th, Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

AMC Select - The best specialty films

- **Old Dogs** (PG) 11:15,1:30,3:40,5:50,8:00,10:20
- **Fantastic Fox** (PG) 10:30,12:40,2:50,5:00,7:20,9:30
- **Ninja Assassin** (R) 11:00,12:00,1:20,2:20,3:40,4:40,6:00,7:00, 8:20,9:20,10:45
- **Planet 51** (PG) 10:40,12:50,3:10,5:30,7:55,10:05
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 11:10,1:00,2:10,4:00,5:10,7:00,8:30,10:15
- AMC Select **Precious: Novel** (R) 11:30,12:30,2:00,3:05, 4:30,5:35,7:05,8:10,9:40,10:40
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 10:50,12:05,1:35,3:00,4:20,5:45,7:15,8:40,10:00
- **2012** (PG–13) 10:30,12:15,1:50,3:45,5:15,7:10,8:45,10:30
- **Christmas Carol** (PG) 10:30,12:55,3:20,5:40,7:50,10:10

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER
164 State Street
312-846-2800

- **Great Muppet** (G) 3:00 P.M.
- **Earth Days** (NR) 3:15,5:15,7:30
- **Hannah Free** (NR) 5:00,7:45

LOGAN THEATRE
2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
(773) 252-0628

- **Michael Jackson** (PG) 2:00,4:05,6:10,8:20
- **Christmas Carol** (PG) 2:00,4:05,6:05,8:10
- **Paranormal Act** (R) 2:15,4:20,6:30,8:40
- **Astro Boy** (PG) 2:10,6:20
- **Cloudy-Mtballs** (PG) 4:15,8:30

MUSIC BOX
3733 N. Southport, Chicago
(773) 871-6604

- **Sound of Music** (NR) 7:00 P.M.
- **The Messenger** (R) 2:30,5:00,7:20,9:40
- **La Danse** (NR) 2:30 P.M.
- **Nightmre Bfore** (PG) 12:00 Midnight
- **House of Devil** (R) 12:00 Midnight

PIPERS ALLEY (AMC)
1608 N. Wells, Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

- **Inglourious** (R) 4:10,7:30
- AMC Select **The Road** (R) 11:10,2:00,4:30,7:00,9:30
- AMC Select **Boondock II** (R) 11:40,2:20,5:00,7:45,10:25
- **Michael Jackson** (PG) 11:20,2:10,4:40,7:15,10:00
- AMC Select **Good Hair** (PG–13) 11:30,1:50,10:45

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)
322 E. Illinois Street
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

AMC Select - The best specialty films

- **Old Dogs** (PG) 10:20,11:20,12:50,1:50,3:30,4:30,6:10,7:10,8:50,9:50,11:30
- **Fantastic Fox** (PG) 10:05,12:40,3:20,6:00,8:40,11:20
- AMC Select **The Road** (R) 11:00,2:00,5:00,8:00,11:00
- **Ninja Assassin** (R) 10:40,1:20,4:10,7:05,9:55
- **Ninja Assassin** (R) 11:40,2:20,5:10,8:05,10:55
- **Planet 51** (PG) 11:10,1:55,4:25,6:50,9:30
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 10:30,11:15,12:15,1:45,2:30,3:35, 5:05,5:50,7:00,8:30,9:15,10:30,11:50
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 10:00,1:00,4:20,7:45,11:10
- AMC Select **Precious: Novel** (R) 11:45,1:40,2:40,5:45,7:50,8:45,11:40
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 10:25,11:25,1:30,2:30,4:40,5:40,7:40, 8:40,10:45,11:45
- AMC Select **Bad Lieutenant** (R) 10:35,1:25,4:45,7:55,10:50
- **2012** (PG–13) 10:10,12:00,3:40,4:15,7:30,10:30,11:20
- AMC Select **Pirate Radio** (R) 10:15,4:00,10:10
- AMC Select **Boondock II** (R) 1:15,7:00
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) ◆ 11:35,2:15,4:50,7:20,10:00
- **Men Who Stare** (R) 11:05,4:35,7:15,9:45
- **Michael Jackson** (PG) 1:35 P.M.
- **Paranormal Act** (R) 11:55 P.M.
- AMC Select **An Education** (PG–13) 11:30,2:05,4:55,7:35,10:15

CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES)
7000 Carperter Rd., Skokie
(800) 326-3264 #2309

- **Fantastic Fox** (PG) ★ 9:45,12:15,2:45,5:15,7:45,10:10,12:45
- **Ninja Assassin** (R) ★ 11:40,12:20,2:10,2:50,4:45,5:20,7:20, 8:10,9:55,10:45,12:25
- **Old Dogs** (PG) ★ 10:50,12:10,1:40,2:30,4:20,5:10,7:10,7:50,9:20, 10:20,11:45,12:45
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) ★ 10:15,12:40,1:20,3:40,4:40,6:50, 7:40,9:40,10:35,12:40
- **Planet 51** (PG) ★ 11:30,1:50,4:15,6:45,9:15,11:30
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) ★ 10:00,10:30,11:00,12:30,1:00, 1:30,2:00,3:00,3:30,4:00,4:30,5:00,6:05,6:30,7:00,7:30,8:00,9:00,9:30, 10:00,10:30,11:00,12:01,12:30
- **2012** (PG–13) 11:15,1:10,2:40,4:50,6:20,8:20,9:50,11:40
- **Boondock II** (R) 11:20,5:30,10:40
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 11:10,1:45,4:10,6:40,9:10,11:45
- **Men Who Stare** (R) 2:20,8:15
- **Precious: Novel** (R) 9:50,12:50,3:50,7:15,9:45,12:20

WEBSTER PLACE (KERASOTES)
1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1641

- **Old Dogs** (PG) ★ 11:20,12:20,1:50,2:50,4:20,5:20,6:50,7:50,9:20,10:20
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) ★ 10:15,12:15,1:15,3:15,4:15,6:15,7:15,9:15,10:15
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) ★ 10:00,10:30,12:30,1:00,1:30,3:30, 4:00,4:30,6:30,7:00,7:30,9:30,10:00,10:30
- **2012** (PG–13) 11:30,3:00,6:45,10:10
- **Pirate Radio** (R) 4:40,7:40,10:40
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 11:15,1:40,4:10,6:40,9:10
- **Men Who Stare** (R) 10:40,1:10,3:50,6:20,9:00
- **Where the Wild** (PG) 10:20,1:20

SHOWPLACE 14 - GALEWOOD CROSSINGS (KERASOTES)
E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1646

- **Ninja Assassin** (R) ★ 10:10,11:20,12:30,1:50,3:45,4:40,6:15,7:15,9:00,9:50
- **Old Dogs** (PG) ★ 9:45,12:20,2:50,5:10,7:40,9:55
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) ★ 9:50,12:20,1:10,3:20,4:10,6:20,7:20,9:40,10:20
- **Planet 51** (PG) ★ 10:50,1:40,4:20,6:50,9:20
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) ★ 10:00,10:30,11:00,12:30,1:00, 1:30,2:00,3:30,4:00,4:30,5:00,6:30,7:00,7:30,8:00,9:30,10:00,10:30
- **2012** (PG–13) 11:30,12:10,3:00,3:40,6:40,7:10,10:10,10:35
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 10:40,1:20,3:50,6:45,9:10
- **Precious: Novel** (R) 11:40,2:20,5:15,7:50,10:40

CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES)
4779 W. Cermak
(800) 326-3264 #1644

- **Ninja Assassin** (R) ★ 11:50,2:40,5:20,6:20,7:50,9:00,10:20
- **Old Dogs** (PG) ★ 9:50,10:40,12:20,1:20,2:50,3:50,5:10,6:10,7:40,8:50,10:15
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) ★ 10:10,12:10,1:10,3:10,4:10,7:10,10:25
- **Planet 51** (PG) ★ 11:20,1:45,4:20,6:50,9:20
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) ★ 10:00,10:30,11:00,12:30,1:00, 1:30,2:00,3:30,4:00,4:30,5:00,6:30,7:00,7:30,8:00,9:30,10:00,10:30
- **2012** (PG–13) 11:30,12:15,3:00,3:40,6:40,7:15,10:10,10:40
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 10:50,1:40,4:15,6:45,9:10
- **Precious: Novel** (R) 11:10,1:50,4:40,7:20,9:55

OAK PARK

LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)
1022 Lake Street
630-444-FILM #560

- **Old Dogs** (PG) ★ 11:10,1:15,3:20,5:25,7:30,9:35
- **Fantastic Fox** (PG) ★ 11:00,1:05,3:10,5:15,7:20,9:25
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) ★ 11:00,1:45,4:30,7:15,10:00
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) ★ 11:00,1:40,4:20,7:00,9:40
- **Precious: Novel** (R) 11:00,1:25,3:50,6:15,8:40
- **2012** (PG–13) 12:00,3:15,6:30,9:45
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 12:00,2:15,4:30,6:45,9:00

EVANSTON

CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)
1715 MAPLE AVE.
(847)492-0123 ♿

- **Ninja Assassin** (R) ★ 12:20,3:00,5:35,8:00,10:30
- **Old Dogs** (PG) ★ 11:05,12:15,1:25,2:35,3:50,4:55,6:10,7:15,8:25,9:35,10:45
- **Fantastic Fox** (PG) ★ 11:20,12:30,1:40,2:45,4:00,5:10,6:20, 7:25,8:40,9:50,11:00
- **The Road** (R) ★ 11:25,2:10,4:55,7:40,10:20
- **2012** (PG–13) 12:10,1:45,3:40,5:10,7:05,8:50,10:40
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 12:25,2:50,5:25,7:50,10:15
- **An Education** (PG–13) 12:45,10:10
- **Bad Lieutenant** (R) ★ 1:35,4:25,7:20
- **Pirate Radio** (R) 1:10 P.M.
- **Planet 51** (PG) ★ 11:15,12:05,2:30,4:50,7:10,9:30
- **Precious: Novel** (R) 11:50,2:50,4:20,5:30,7:00,8:10,9:40,10:50
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) ★ 1:00,3:55,6:55,10:00
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) ★ 12:00,1:30,3:00,3:45,4:30,6:05, 6:45,7:30,9:00,9:45,10:35
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) ★ 11:10,2:15,5:15,8:15,11:15

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fast paised

MATT PAIS
mpais@tribune.com

'Hannah Free'
(Not rated)

'Hannah' freefalls into corniness

Salty, annoying Hannah (Sharon Gless) isn't allowed to see her lifelong lover, Rachel (Maureen Gallagher), who's in a coma a few hospital rooms away. Luckily, Hannah's able to entertain herself through corny flashbacks and conversations with the imaginary presence of a younger Rachel (Ann Hagemann), which are conveniently interrupted by the appearance of plucky Greta (Jacqui Jackson), a 21-year-old lesbian who wants to help Hannah.

The buzz: "Hannah Free," adapted from Claudia Allen's play, was shot in the Chicago area, but you wouldn't know it based on all the generic locations. It's nice to see an unfussy story about love between two women, but that doesn't excuse the simplistic depiction of uptight religious types, Hannah's lifelong abandonment of Rachel ("What's so wrong with wantin' to see the world?" she asks earnestly) and every character's tendency to explain everything they've done or are doing.

The verdict: Good intentions don't matter when everything else is so incompetent. With all its clunky backstory, corny performances and self-consciously middle-American dialogue ("He wouldn't know a moonflower from a lilac bush") "Hannah Free" screams "made-for-TV." And even then you'd fall over yourself sprinting to change the channel.

MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX MOVIES PRODCUCER.

Sharon Gless (left) and Maureen Gallagher star in 'Hannah Free.'
PHOTO BY HAL BAIM

ALSO OUT

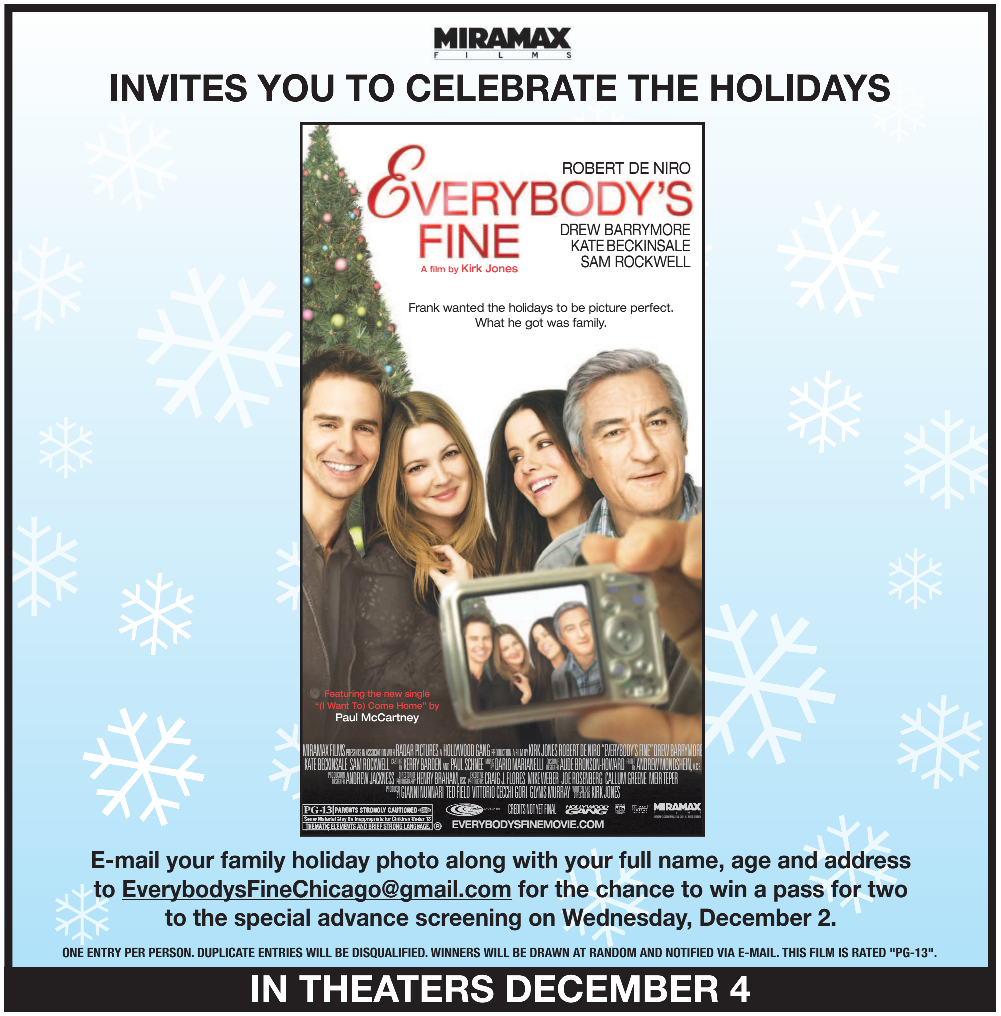
'The Road' *(R)*
"[Viggo] Mortensen provides a solid foundation when the movie slides into melodrama."

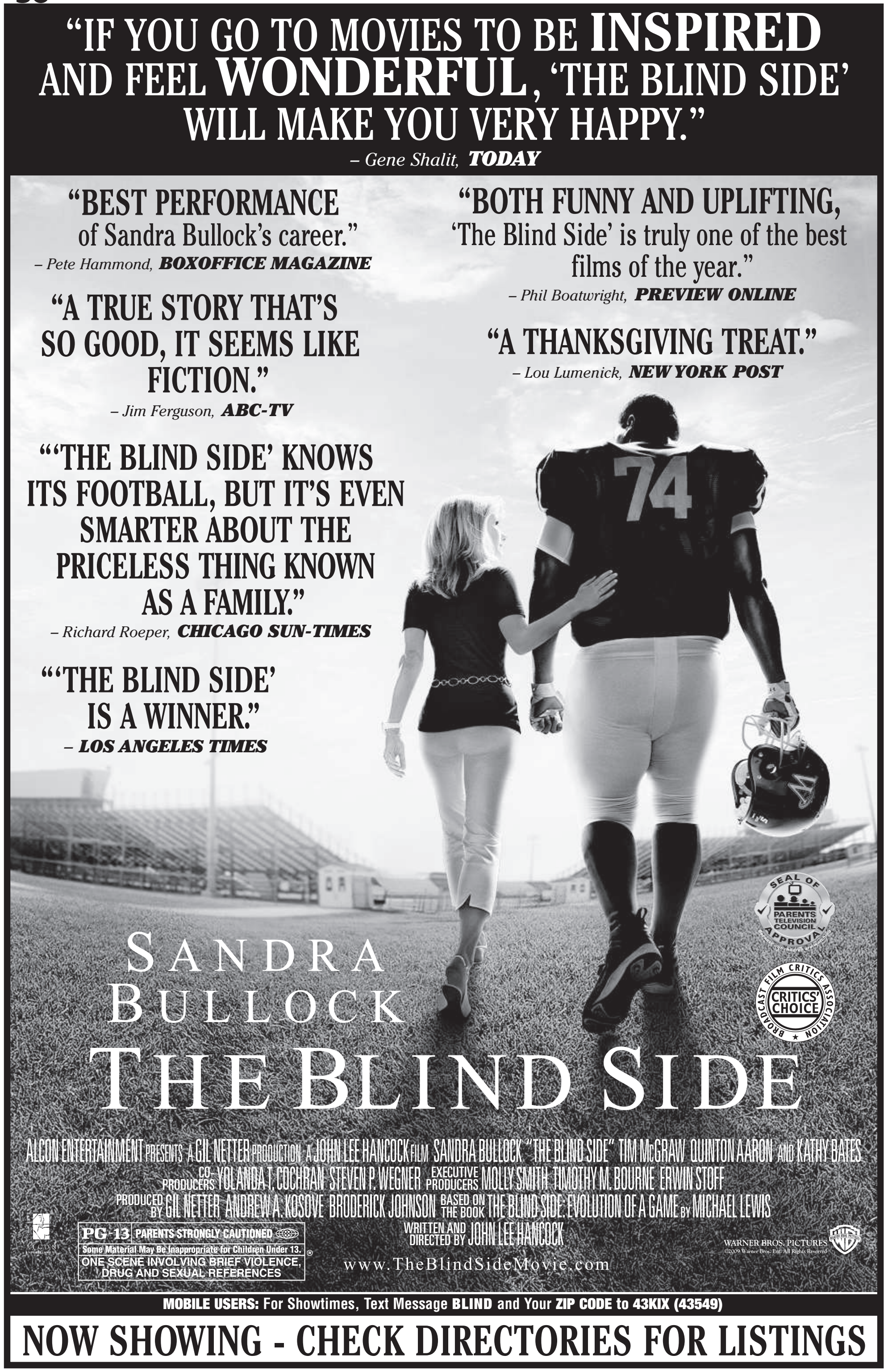
'Fantastic Mr. Fox' *(G)*
"The humor comes and goes ... but a punchy spirit remains that makes this a zippy, reasonably enjoyable ride."

'Ninja Assassin' *(R)*
"If you love the sound of whoosh-shwing-squish, get ready for a party."

'Old Dogs' *(PG)*
"All actors involved seem to have collectively placed their sense of self-respect in a bag and tossed it in the toilet."

UPDATE
Disney's "The Princess and the Frog" opens in Chicago on Dec. 11.




"IF YOU GO TO MOVIES TO BE INSPIRED AND FEEL WONDERFUL, 'THE BLIND SIDE' WILL MAKE YOU VERY HAPPY."
– Gene Shalit, TODAY
"BEST PERFORMANCE of Sandra Bullock's career."
– Pete Hammond, BOXOFFICE MAGAZINE
"BOTH FUNNY AND UPLIFTING, 'The Blind Side' is truly one of the best films of the year."
– Phil Boatwright, PREVIEW ONLINE
"A TRUE STORY THAT'S SO GOOD, IT SEEMS LIKE FICTION."
– Jim Ferguson, ABC-TV
"A THANKSGIVING TREAT."
– Lou Lumenick, NEW YORK POST
"'THE BLIND SIDE' KNOWS ITS FOOTBALL, BUT IT'S EVEN SMARTER ABOUT THE PRICELESS THING KNOWN AS A FAMILY."
– Richard Roeper, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES
"'THE BLIND SIDE' IS A WINNER."
– LOS ANGELES TIMES
74
SEAL OF PARENTS TELEVISION COUNCIL APPROVAL
BROADCAST FILM CRITICS ASSOCIATION CRITICS' CHOICE
SANDRA BULLOCK
THE BLIND SIDE
ALCON ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS A GIL NETTER PRODUCTION A JOHN LEE HANCOCK FILM SANDRA BULLOCK "THE BLIND SIDE" TIM McGRAW QUINTON AARON AND KATHY BATES
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– Larry Carroll, MTV.COM
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– LIFE & STYLE
"More action. More romance. 'New Moon' delivers a powerful and passionate punch."
– Sandie Newton, CBS-TV
the twilight saga
new moon
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WITH MICHAEL SHEEN AND DAKOTA FANNING CASTING BY JOSEPH MIDDLETON, C.S.A. MUSIC BY ALEXANDRE DESPLAT MUSIC SUPERVISOR ALEXANDRA PATSAVAS
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Michael Sheen in 'New Moon' SUMMIT ENTERTAINMENT

THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON

@jamfish728: New Moon was a pretty good and actually a step above its predecessor. Still not sure on how non-twilight fans will like it .

@Henjealy: If you take 1 thing from New Moon, it's that any good-looking person you meet in Boofoo, WA is likely a mutant-something

@CisforConnie: New Moon: Disappointing. Not the movie, but looking over at my boyfriend and realizing he's not as cool as a vampire =/

@lilmissjen: Twilight: New Moon - Seems like the kids have learned to act since the last film. Surprisingly good; Lautner steals the show.

@mjanasek: New Moon: U can def see where extra production cash went in this film - high tech cinematography + Lautner's workout regimen

@danielpiper: Taylor Lautner's abs are the only things worth seeing in New Moon.

@Cubsua: New Moon was an amazing return to the world of Forks, WA - but the screaming Tweens in the theater I could have done without.

@chuckoliva: New Moon: 5 Stars/2 Thumbs up! The Twilight Saga gets an upgrade by Director Chris Weitz. His directing KILLED the box office. I want more!

THE BLIND SIDE

@danheinz: the best movie I have seen in YEARS. Sandra Bullock is awesome, and it's a great family movie. Five Stars

@jabraha7: The Blind Side tells a great story and is far more than just another sports movie. Everyone should see it with an open mind!

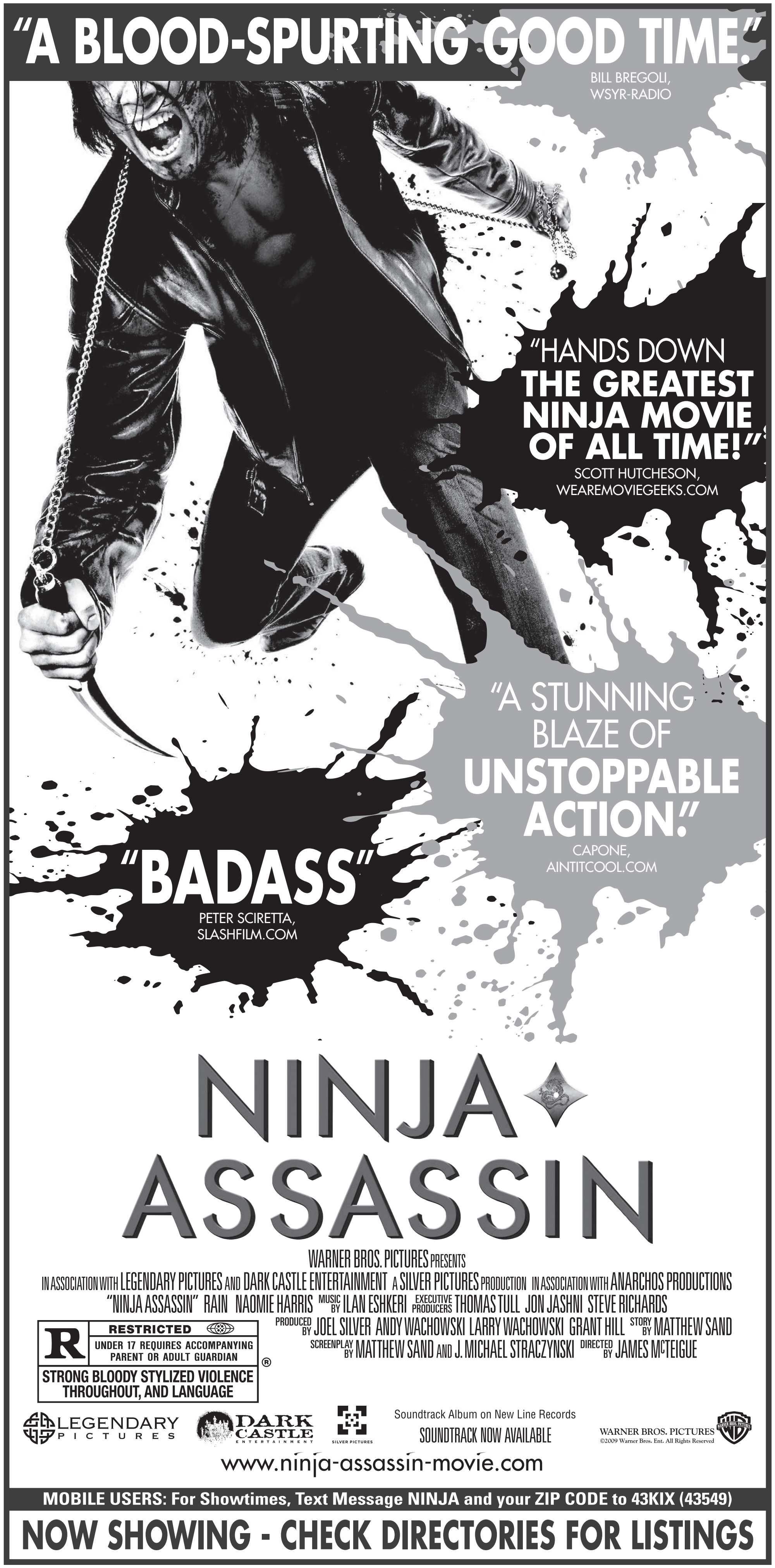
@goldendragon35: Thought movie was going to be ok, but very well done movie about a true story. shows that anything is possible

@PattiCake33: The blind side was touching, very good, all though it was a long story line, all in all it made its points loud & clear!

2012

@dangerousgirlxo: 2012 scared me. Like really scared me. Normal people shouldn't be flying jets. :/

@sbgardner: Saw 2012 this weekend and it is an end-of-the-world, action packed, special effect bonanza. Theater worthy!



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Things that turn us on

TECH

Be.ez LAbesace Lime Drop Laptop Bag

$70 at amazon.com

If you're a MacBook owner, there's a good chance you care about the aesthetics of your technology. That may be why Be.Ez made the LAbesace Lime Drop (I have no idea how to pronounce that name either). The sleek, seamless messenger bag looks like something Apple might have made. "Lime Drop" comes from the inner lining, which is made of bright yellow-green neon material. As good as it looks, it's also very functional as a carrying case for your laptop. **RYAN SMITH FOR REDEYE**

TECH

Heartbeats by Lady Gaga from Monster and Beats By Dre

$99.95 at ladygaga.shop.bravadousa.com; beatsbydre.com

As seen on the fashionably flamboyant Lady Gaga in the "Bad Romance" music video, Heartbeats by Lady Gaga are earbuds designed to look like jewelry. The in-ear Heartbeats are available in silver, red and black colors, and feature multiple eartips for a good fit and a travel case. Best of all, they offer superior audio fidelity with particularly good low-frequency sounds.

RYAN SMITH FOR REDEYE

FASHION

Kate Spade Hand in Hand Colorblock Mittens

$95 at Kate Spade, 56 Oak St.

Looking for the ideal stocking stuffer? Kate Spade's colorful mittens fit the bill—and they were handmade by female war survivors in Bosnia. What a warm way to give—and give back.

JOANNA GUSTAFSON FOR REDEYE

ALBUM

'She Wolf'

Shakira

With "She Wolf" the album, Shakira is courting American dance floors with unprecedented zeal. Ascending from pop hopeful to international star to blonder-than-ever global presence, the singer's new disc finds her catering almost exclusively to American eardrums with the employ of Pharrell Williams and Timbaland. It results in a slew of electro-flavored tunes that would have sounded more timely in 2005 but still glide on the super-powered presence of the woman holding the microphone. **CHRIS RICHARDS, THE WASHINGTON POST**

whoville

Best of what's left over

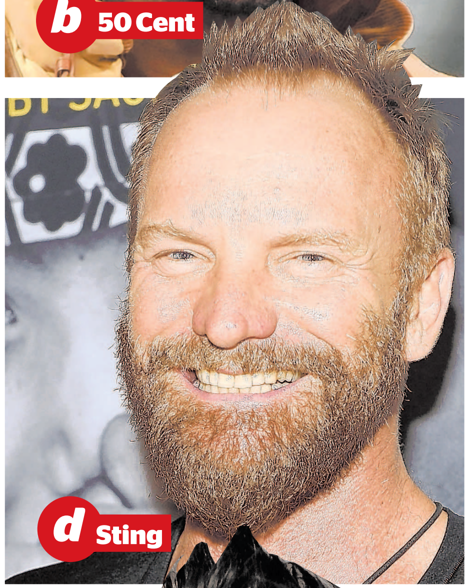
Celebrity dish— reheated

While you were stuffing your face Thursday, the celebrity world was busy—well, they were probably stuffing their faces too. But now that Thanksgiving has come and gone, it's time to shake off that food coma and get your brain moving again. We have just the quiz to do it. See if you can match these recent quotes to the celebs who said them. TRIBUNE

a Ashton Kutcher

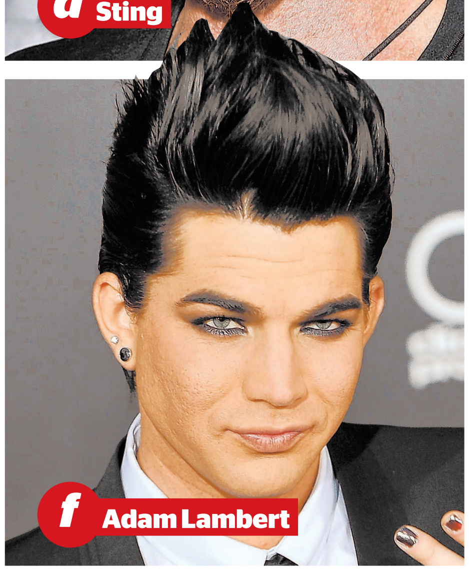
b 50 Cent

c Robert Pattinson



d Sting

e Jon Gosselin



f Adam Lambert

1 *"I'm proud of the fact that I did get a little carried away."*

2 *"I tried to follow the pope back, but he blocked me."*

3 *"I don't know why, but for me personally, pain is more monumental than joy. I can tell you the last time I was in a really hurtful situation faster than I can pinpoint the last time I was laughing."*

4 *"I won't be home [for Thanksgiving]. I'm going to my grandma's."*

5 *"I don't know how the Beatles felt, but I imagine it was close to this."*

6 *"There's a time when your interests are more esoteric. A little bit more refined, so the popular taste maybe bypasses what you do. My career has largely bypassed popular tastes. ... I enjoyed having hit records, but at the same time I don't mind not having hit records, as long as I'm making music.*

ANSWERS: 1. f, 2. a, 3. b, 4. e, 5. c, 6. d

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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2	7	9	4	8	5	1	6	3
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WEDNESDAY'S SOLUTIONS

■	R	U	B	■	F	E	E	D	■	B	A	N	A	L
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ACROSS
1 Glass container
4 Sound portion of a telecast
9 Assistant
13 Asian nation
15 Lost one's lap
16 Last day for Julius Caesar
17 Donate
18 Like a cheap metal container
19 Harvest
20 Immortal
22 Quite a number of
23 Italy's capital
24 Body of water
26 Spain's money until 2002
29 Rather olive colored
34 Accumulate
35 Capital of South Korea
36 Singing couple
37 Young horse
38 Mails
39 Amateur
40 Greek letter
41 In the know
42 Protrude
43 Set aside for a special purpose
45 Singer Pearl
46 Scouting group
47 "Just a minute!"
48 Create
51 Study of the meaning of words
56 Arm bone
57 Egg-shaped
58 "The Buckeye State"
60 Touch
61 Boldness
62 Avid computer tech, perhaps
63 Charges
64 Avarice
65 Nourished

DOWN
1 Run for exercise
2 In the center of
3 Talk wildly
4 Chronic lung disorder
5 Useful
6 Finished
7 Recent Saturn models
8 Homer's heroic wanderer
9 USAF rank
10 Thought
11 College head
12 Make out
14 Closest
21 Preschoolers
25 Japanese delicacy
26 Set a moderate speed for
27 Ham it up
28 Dinner course
29 Literary class
30 Took a bus, for example
31 Pastoral poem
32 Sudden rise in voltage
33 Nonsense
35 Chair or bench
38 Farewell act
39 Payment to a college
41 Highest diamond
42 Fishing lure
44 High principles
45 _ together; teamed up
47 Forgo
48 Hand covering in winter
49 Toward shelter
50 Part of the leg
52 At any time
53 Oliver's request
54 Emeril, for one
55 Beget
59 Unusual

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60				■	61					■	62			
63				■	64					■	■	65		

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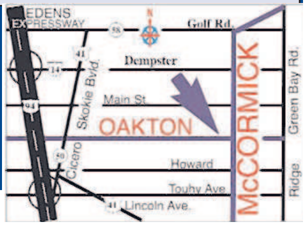

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red hot

Miley Cyrus has got it bad for Zac Efron. In an interview this week with Sirius XM's "The Morning Mash Up!," Cyrus said: "I think Zac Efron is the hottest person in the world. I really, really like him. It's weird because he's my friend. … I could call him and be like, 'whatever.' "

And Zac's "17 Again" co-star Nicole Sullivan is mad for his butt. She got to squeeze the Charmin when the pair filmed a sketch for **funnyordie.com**. Sullivan tells the New York Post: "I can describe it exactly: two large, firm grapefruits. … I told him, 'Zac, do you know how many girls would cut off my hands and put them in formaldehyde if they knew how often they touched your butt?' "

GETTIN' CHEEKY

"I didn't fit in in high school and I felt like a freak. So I like to create this atmosphere for my fans where they feel like they have a freak in me to hang out with and they don't feel alone."

—Lady Gaga, on the "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" set to air Friday

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

'SNL' hotties

"Saturday Night Live" is looking at a cool December. The sketch show next month welcomes Blake Lively (Dec. 5), Taylor Lautner (Dec. 12) and James Franco (Dec. 19). On the musical front: Rihanna, Bon Jovi and Muse.

Bullock's special parts

Sandra Bullock has banned husband Jesse James from tattooing certain places. The TV tough guy has tats on his arms, legs, torso, neck—even the palms of his hands, but Bullock wants one or two places to stay blank. "I took a Sharpie [pen] and marked out where he couldn't get tattoos. I went, 'This is mine,' " she said on George Lopez's talk show, "Lopez Tonight!"

'Moon' rising

"The Twilight Saga: New Moon" is full—of cash, that is. The second offering in the vampire-and-werewolves series led the box office Wednesday with $14.3 million, according to The Hollywood Reporter. It has earned $179 million in just six days. It is expected to dominate again on—appropriately enough—Black Friday.

Lindsay gets the last laugh

Lindsay Lohan has defied her fashion critics—her clothing collection reportedly is a commercial success.

Lohan's line for Emanuel Ungaro was roundly panned by critics, and founder Emanuel Ungaro, who is no longer involved with the firm, labeled the show a "disaster." But company president Mounir Moufarrige tells Reuters: "The criticism was harsh. I am sure we can do better in the collection, to be honest. But it did sell well."

19.2 MILLION That's the number of people who watched Donny Osmond win "Dancing With the Stars" this week—the smallest audience for the finale since the first season.